

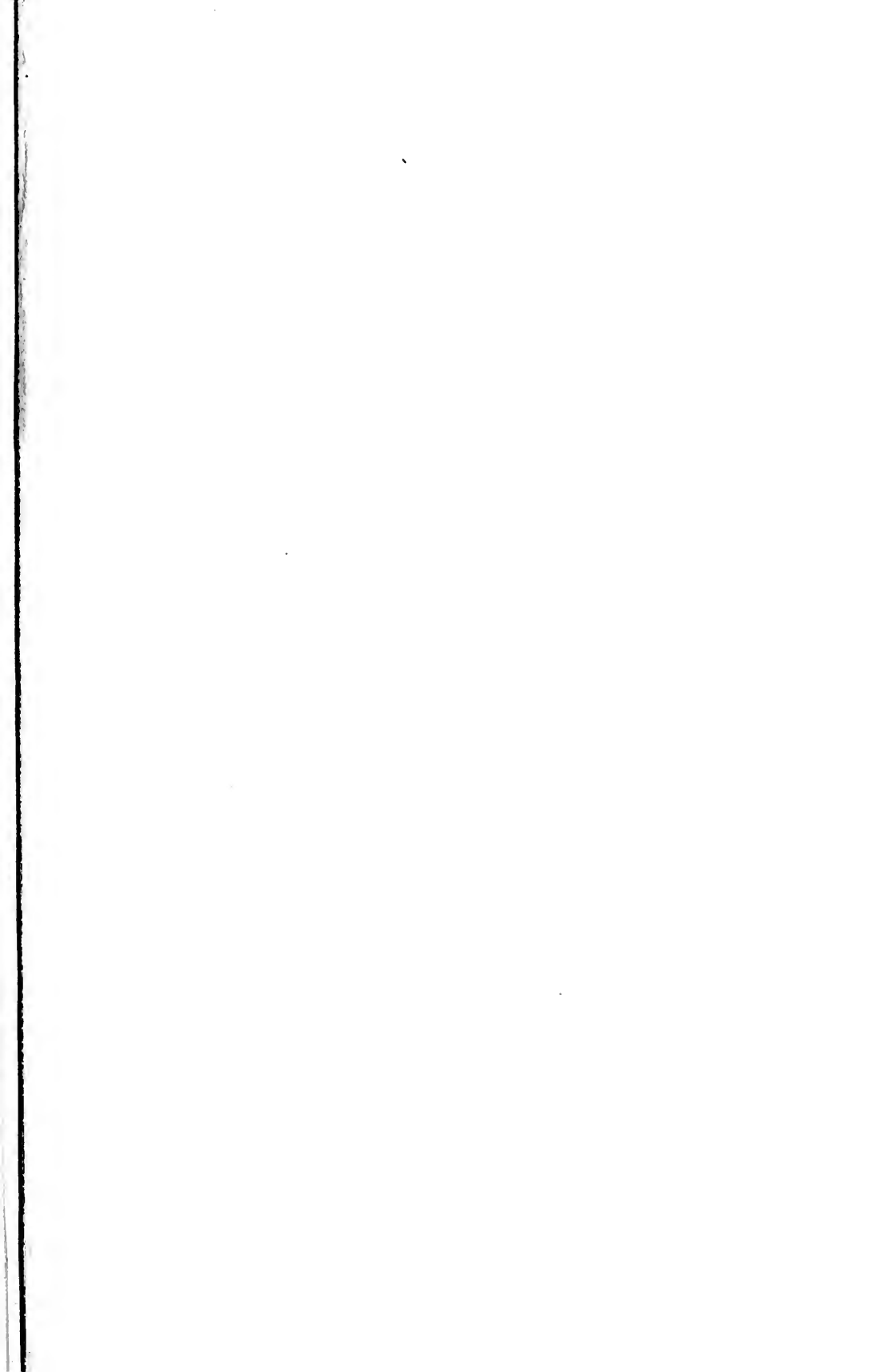
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His Royal Highness
THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT
in India 1921

Being a collection of the
Speeches delivered by
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS



CALCUTTA
SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA
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H. R. H. The Duke of Connaught in India, 1921.

His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., K.T., K.P., arrived at Madras on board the H. M. S. Malaya on the 10th January 1921 and, accompanied by the members of his personal staff, landed at the west quay at 4-30 P.M. The party accompanying His Royal Highness were :—

The Right Hon'ble the Earl of Cromer, Chief of the Staff.

Mr. J. L. Maffey, Chief Secretary.

Brigadier-General R. B. Worgan, Military Secretary.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Malcolm Murray, Comptroller of the Household.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir F. Worthington, Physician to His Royal Highness.

Captains D. North and Hon'ble F. Needham, Extra Equerries-in-waiting.

Mr. D. Petrie, Police Officer.

Major C. O. Harvey and Captain F. S. Poynder, Aides-de-Camp.

Their Excellencies the Governor of Madras and Lady Willingdon received His Royal Highness at the quay amidst enthusiastic cheers, and at the landing stage His Excellency the Governor presented the following to His Royal Highness :—

His Highness the Raja of Pudukkottai.

His Excellency Rear Admiral Sir Hugh Tothill, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Naval Forces in the East Indies.

The Hon'ble Sir John Wallis, Chief Justice.

The Most Reverend Archbishop Aelen.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopalachari, President of the Madras Legislative Council.

The Hon'ble Sir Lionel Davidson.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. G. Todhunter.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Habibullah and the Hon'ble Mr. K. Srinivasa Iyengar, Members of the Executive Council.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadurs A. Subbarayalu Reddiar and P. Ramarayaningar and the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur K. Venkata Reddi Naidu, Ministers.

Lieutenant-General Sir William Marshall, Commanding-in-Chief,
Southern Command.

Mr. A. R. Knapp, Chief Secretary to Government.

Mr. H. H. G. Mitchell, Chairman, Madras Port Trust.

After His Royal Highness had inspected the guard of honour Mr. A. R. Knapp, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, introduced the following gentlemen :—

The Nawab of Banganapalle.

The Raja of Sandur.

The Prince of Arcot.

The Hon'ble Sir John Wallis then introduced the following Judges of the High Court :—

The Hon'ble Sir William Ayling.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Oldfield.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sadasiva Iyer.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Spencer.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Coutts Trotter.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Phillips.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Napier.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kumarswami Sastri.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Krishnan.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramesam.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Odgers.

The Chief Secretary next introduced the following :—

Mr. L. E. Buckley.

Mr. M. E. Couchman.

Major General Giffard.

Mr. R. A. Graham.

Major-General J. T. Burnett Stuart.

Messrs. N. E. Marjoribanks and N. MacMichael.

The Rajas of Jeypore, Kalahasti, Bobbili and Ramnad.

Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar.

Mr. Hutton.

The Venerable F. Nuttall.

Mr. E. S. Lloyd.

Mr. R. Ramchandra Rao.

Mr. F. J. Richards.

Mr. J. M. Turing.

Lieutenant-Colonel Morin.

Captain Huddleston.
 Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell.
 Colonel Swinton.
 Major Cameron.
 Mr. W. D. Wollan.
 Mr. L. G. Dawson.
 Mr. R. G. Grieve.
 Mr. S. Cox.
 Mr. A. R. L. Tottenham.
 Mr. C. B. N. Pelly.
 Mr. F. R. Hemingway.
 Mr. T. E. Moir.
 Mr. G. A. D. Stuart.
 Rao Sahab M. C. T. Muttayya Chetti.
 Major Burnand.

After the presentations His Royal Highness and their Excellencies proceeded through the portico of the Port Trust Office, preceded by their personal staffs to the dais where His Excellency presented to His Royal Highness Sir P. Thyagaraya Chetti and Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazlullah Sahab, President and Commissioner, respectively, of the Corporation of Madras. All the members of the Legislative Council, many leading officials and representatives of non-official communities were present at the pandal specially put up opposite the dais.

Sir P. Thyagaraya Chetti read the following address on behalf of the Corporation, which was enclosed in a massive silver casket mounted with the Royal coat-of-arms in gold and bearing an appropriate inscription and a well executed and embossed picture of the Ripon buildings :—

Address by the Corporation.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

On behalf of the citizens of Madras, we, the President and Councillors of the Corporation of Madras, offer Your Royal Highness a most hearty and loyal welcome to this ancient city, one of the first British possessions in India. Madras is the oldest Municipal Corporation in India, and the citizens of Madras feel proud of the connection that has existed between our City and the British Throne for over two centuries ; that

connection has been a steady one, a loyal one, uninterrupted through all the vicissitudes of time, and to-day we are in a position to say that the tie that binds us to the British Throne and the person of His Majesty the King-Emperor is firmer and stronger than ever. The whole British Empire has just come out through a World War, which has shaken to its very foundations many a kingdom and dynasty, but has left the British Throne and the British Empire stronger and mightier than ever. Though we are not left untouched by the after-effects of the War, we are indeed deeply grateful that we have been delivered from the havoc and ravages of a devastating war. We are proud also that in the most trying times of the War our City and our Presidency stood firm in their loyalty and contributed of their best in men and money towards the deliverance of the world. The message of sympathy which His Imperial Majesty delivered at the time of His Majesty's Coronation at Delhi is still ringing in our ears. We are deeply thankful that pursuant to that policy His Majesty's Government has inaugurated in this country a scheme of Reforms which has as its ideal the goal of Self-Government in India. We have indeed been ushered into a new era of Responsible Government, and we trust that, with the increased share which the people will have in the governance of the country, the ties of loyalty will further be strengthened. In conclusion, we respectfully desire to convey, through Your Royal Highness, to His Imperial Majesty and the Royal House our loyal and deep devotion and to assure Your Royal Highness of our steadfast loyalty to the British Throne.

His Royal Highness made the following reply to the address :—

Reply of His Royal Highness.

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for the kindly welcome you extend to me and, though it is my first visit to Madras, I receive it not as a new-comer setting foot on unfamiliar shores, amidst unfamiliar faces, but as an old traveller returned, rejoiced to find myself once again beneath India's sunny skies.

India for me holds many old friends and countless happy memories and I am grateful for the opportunity my mission affords me of renewing the old ties which bind me to this country. Several years have passed since I was in your midst but my interest in your doings has never

flagged. In Great Britain and throughout the British Empire, on the minds of men who previously had not interested themselves deeply perhaps in the affairs of this great country, the part which India played in the War produced a profound effect, the form of which may, I think, hardly have been realised here in India. For me, an old servant of the Crown in India, fortified with vivid memories of Indian scenes and faces, you can well imagine how greatly interest in you, and sympathy with you, were quickened by India's splendid record of achievement, and with what pride and pleasure I heard the old words and saw the well-known faces of Hindustan in the distant theatres of war.

In England I had the honour of meeting those distinguished Indian representatives whom you sent from time to time, first to assist at the Central Councils of our Empire and finally at the Peace Conference, when, by the blessing of the Almighty, victory had at last been vouchsafed to us.

I met, too, the gallant soldiers of India of every race and creed in many places, far from their native land bravely doing their duty in a warfare of unprecedented severity, carried on under novel and unexpected conditions, and often in a climate which tried them to the utmost limit of human endurance. As soldiers they were true to their salt, and, as a soldier, I pay them the honour which is their due.

TRIBUTE TO MADRAS.

I know well that the City and Presidency of Madras stand high in India's war record. When the fateful hour struck, you rose to the height of your opportunity and quitted yourselves like men. We are still too near the days of the War to realise all that it has meant, but as the years go by, your sons, and those who come after them, will take increasing pride in what their country did. India, beyond all doubt, has added greatly to her stature.

Meanwhile, the world has changed and India has changed with it. Do not imagine that I come back to you, like Rip van Winkle from the mountains, expecting to find things as I left them, surprised and shocked that they are not. There is a new spirit abroad in India, a strong spirit of progress and, whatever you may be told to the contrary, believe me when I assure you that in your onward march you carry with you the warm sympathy and firm good-will of the people of Great Britain and that you may look to them unhesitatingly for support, both now and always. The people of Great Britain take a deep and

rightful pride in the great work which has been accomplished in the past, and is still to-day being accomplished, by the British services in India. But they take an equal pride in the proud position which India is so rapidly attaining in the eyes of the world to-day through Indian enterprise, Indian brains, Indian self-help and Indian patriotism.

AT THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW ERA.

And so you stand to-day at the threshold of a new era. New and grave problems confront you. Will you pardon an old friend, to whom the welfare of India is very dear, if, taking your welcome as my text, and claiming the privilege of age and experience, which never fail to receive due respect in India, I presume to give a few words of counsel ?

The easy-going days to which the world was getting accustomed, which gave to India a time for recuperation and new growth, after prolonged anarchy and unspeakable distress—those days have gone and are not likely to return. A time has come when the responsibility which rests upon every individual citizen is far greater than ever before. From the issues now being hammered out no man can afford to stand aloof. In all countries there is a class of men who shrink from the storm and stress of public movements, who are satisfied with their private pursuits or with the care of their paternal cares. How well we have known this class in India and how greatly we have respected them ! But conditions have changed. The philosopher from his seclusion, the merchant from his desk, the Zamindar from his homestead, their country calls them all. To-day India requires every citizen Yea or Nay, and no man is worthy of citizenship who does not give it.

A word more and I have done. You have recently passed through a period of troubles and difficulties. Do not brood over them. Remember that there has been a terrible explosion in the world. Sparks are still flying everywhere. The events of the past few years cannot be forced into any of the accepted moulds and standards of human conduct. Standing here to-day have we not cause to be unspeakably grateful that things have not been worse, infinitely worse ? Through the clouds, a bright dawn of promise is breaking over this land, and, if sanity and true patriotism guide your leadings nothing can debar India from her high destiny. It is not through strife and bitterness, it is not by following paths which plainly lead to strife and bitterness, that India will maintain her course so gloriously begun. There are enough unhappy, incomprehensible tragedies taking place in the world to-day without our

adding to them here. Do not peer into the troubled waters in the wake of your ship. Lengthen the focus of your glasses and look ahead.

Gentlemen, by the command of our beloved King-Emperor, I have come to assist at the inauguration of India's new Legislative Councils. That is my official mission. But if it were granted to me, by my presence once again in your midst, to help, so far as in me lies, in the healing of old sores, in the removal of bitter memories, in the strengthening of old ties, and in the renewal of a greater mutual confidence and goodwill, then I feel I should indeed be taking a part worthy of a son of Queen Victoria, my dear mother, the memory of whose abiding love for India inspires me in the task which now confronts me.

I shall not fail to carry to His Majesty the King-Emperor your assurances of loyalty and devotion to the Throne and your gratitude for His Majesty's active sympathy in the broadening of your public life.

Gentlemen, it now only remains for me to ask you for your help and good wishes, and to thank you for the welcome you have to-day so kindly accorded to me.

The function over, His Royal Highness accompanied by their Excellencies drove in state to the Government House.

On the morning of the 12th His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught opened the new Madras Legislative Council. Most of the Members of the Legislative Council were present, and in the visitors' gallery, which was crowded, were noticed some of the Madras Members of the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly and Her Excellency Lady Willingdon. Exactly at 10-15 A.M. His Excellency Lord Willingdon arrived in state and proceeded to the dais. Ten minutes later His Royal Highness accompanied by his personal staff and escorted by two squadrons of cavalry drove in state to the entrance of the Council Chamber, and proceeded to the dais, where he was welcomed by His Excellency the Governor and then took his seat with royal honours. The following had been invited to witness the ceremony :—

His Excellency Sir Hugh and Lady Tothill.

The Hon'ble Sir John and Lady Wallis.

His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements and Madam Gerbinis.

Bishop of Madras and Mrs. Whitehead.

Most Rev. Archbishop Aelen.

His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate.

Lieutenant-General Sir William and Lady Marshall.
 The Rajah of Pudukkottai.
 The Hon'ble Sir William Ayling, I.C.S.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice and Mrs. Oldfield.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice and Mrs. Sadasiva Iyer.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice and Mrs. Spencer.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. M. Coutts Trotter.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice and Mrs. Phillips.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. F. Napier.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. V. Kumaraswamy Sastri.
 The Nawab of Banganapalle.
 Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Aiyar.
 The Rajah and Rani of Sandur.
 The Prince of Arcot.
 The Rajah of Kalahasti.
 The Rajah of Jeypore.
 The Rajah of Bobbili.
 The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri.
 The Hon'ble Mr. V. Ramabhadra Naidu.
 The Hon'ble Mr. Annamalai Chetti.
 The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Marakkayar.
 Major-General Burnett Stewart.
 The Maharajah of Bobbili.
 Mrs. Todhunter.
 Lady Davidson.
 Lady Rajagopalachari.
 Mrs. Lloyd.
 M. and Mme Maitrot.
 Mr. and Mrs. Ramachandra Rao.
 Mr. and Mrs. Couchman.
 Mr. and Mrs. Buckley.
 Major-General and Mrs. Giffard.
 Mr. and Mrs. Marjoribanks.
 Mr. and Mrs. MacMichael.
 Mr. R. A. Graham.
 Mr. and Mrs. Hutton.
 The Archdeacon of Madras and Mrs. Nuttall.
 Colonel and Mrs. Morin.
 Mr. and Mrs. Turing.
 Mrs. Richards.

In asking His Royal Highness to inaugurate the Council His Excellency the Governor made the following speech :—

Speech by H. E. the Governor.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

It is my privilege, on behalf of the Government and of the people of the Madras Presidency and their elected representatives assembled in this Council Chamber, to offer to Your Royal Highness a most cordial and respectful welcome to this the senior Province in India and to assure you that it is to us a matter of very special gratification that Your Royal Highness' landing on the shores of India on this memorable occasion should have taken place at our capital city. Fort St. George, under the ramparts of which this Council Chamber lies, marked the first establishment of the British Empire in India, and it is indeed appropriate that the same spot should now, nearly 300 years later, witness an event no less momentous to the destiny of India and fraught, as we trust, with no less benefit to its peoples.

We in Madras share with the rest of India in the disappointment caused by the postponement of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, whom we trust we may have the privilege of welcoming to this country before long, but we rejoice that his place as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor on the occasion of the inauguration of our new constitution has been taken by Your Royal Highness of whose personal services to this country in the past we have a lively recollection, and whose acquaintance with the problems of Indian government ensures on the part of Your Royal Highness a special measure of understanding and sympathy.

Your Royal Highness' presence in this Chamber as the representative of His Imperial Majesty once more bears testimony to the deep affection and concern for the interests of India and its people which have always been evinced by His Majesty and indeed by all the Members of the Royal Family. We in the Madras Presidency, of whatever race and creed, desire humbly to reciprocate that affection and beg Your Royal Highness to convey to His Imperial Majesty an assurance of the deep loyalty and devotion which now as heretofore we bear to his throne and person.

The new Constitution which Your Royal Highness is about to inaugurate admits the elected representatives of the people of India for

the first time to share in the government of the country, and we recognise in it the foundation upon which will be raised in the years to come the completed edifice of our constitutional freedom as a full partner in the fortunes of the British Empire. We pray that under God's providence the labours of this, the first popularly elected assembly to be constituted in India, may, with the full co-operation of all classes and creeds of His Majesty's subjects, lead ever more and more to the prosperity and development of our Presidency, to the peace, contentment and happiness of its people, and to the strengthening of the bonds which bind us to the British Empire.

The address, which was printed in gold on parchment, was then presented to His Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness then addressed the Council in the following terms :—

Reply of His Royal Highness.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

By the command of His Majesty the King-Emperor, I have come to India to inaugurate on his behalf the new Constitution of which in Madras this Council is an integral part, and to bring his affectionate greetings to his Indian people. My presence here to-day is a token of His Majesty's lively interest in this great movement of orderly progress towards constitutional liberty, and of his wishes for its success. Your welcome to me as the King-Emperor's delegate is a fitting response to his message of good-will. It will be my pleasing duty to convey it to His Majesty, and to lay before him your assurances of loyalty and devotion to his Throne and Person.

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,

I thank you for your welcome to me personally, and your reference to my previous association with India. Years have passed—years of rapid change—since I served in this country, but my memories of it are vivid and happy. I still have many friends among its people, and I deeply rejoice to visit it again.

It is a source of special pleasure to me to meet here as your Governor my friend Lord Willingdon. To the zealous discharge of his office he has brought those remarkable gifts of charm and personality which have

everywhere gained him respect and affection. In Lord Willingdon you have a man who represents the best that England has to give you, the finest type of an English gentleman. (Applause.)

No place in India could more appropriately have been selected for entering upon the important duty with which His Majesty has entrusted me. It was here that the connection between India and the British Empire was first definitely established. It was in Fort St. George that Clive began the career during which, aided largely by the courage and tenacity of Madras troops, he secured a footing for the British power. It was here, nearly a hundred years ago, that Sir Thomas Munro as Governor of Presidency first defined, in a despatch to the Court of Directors, the true policy and the only vindication of the British connection—that the people of India should be taught and guided and fitted to govern themselves. (Applause.)

At last that policy is ripening into fruition. In this historic Presidency it will be the task of Your Excellency and your officers, of you the Members of the Legislative Council, and of the Ministers who will be drawn from among you, to cherish its growth and to hand it on to your successors, a stage further towards perfect maturity. In that task I have come to wish you godspeed on behalf of your Sovereign and the sister nations of our Empire. (Applause.)

In India, as elsewhere, political development is only a vehicle for human life and human progress. Its function is to provide a nation with means for increasing the happiness of the people. The form has an importance of its own; but the spirit is vital for liberty, and unless human brotherhood follows in its steps, may easily become a greater tyranny. With those, therefore, who would share in the building up of your new constitution, the thought of the people's happiness must ever be paramount (applause) and I can imagine how, at this epoch in your history, your minds are turning towards that high ideal. The pursuit of it demands of you many qualities—patience, insight, sympathy and the like—but if I were to try to enumerate them, I should conclude in the well-known words, that “the greatest of these is charity.” I mean not only courtesy between political opponents and tolerance of antagonistic views, though those virtues will be needed to sweeten your labours. I am thinking rather of that wider toleration which blunts the sharpness of conflicting interests. It is this form of charity which must surely be the underlying principle and the aim of your political growth. India has suffered much in the past from the clash of religions. She has suffered from hard distinctions between social orders. These

mean disunion, and disunion is weakness. They mean constraint, and constraint is unhappiness. To mitigate these in the future will be your statesmanship.

I cannot pretend to speak to you on the local topics which will immediately engage the attention of your Council and your Ministers. I am not sufficiently familiar with them. But as one who has for many years watched the unfolding of political freedom in other lands, and still more as a true friend of India, I may venture to offer to you, and to the other Councils which I shall meet elsewhere, a few words of general application to the great work which lies before you.

Let the first of these be the plea which I have just put before you. It is a plea that you should sink differences and magnify points of concord. Thus united, use your new political machinery to raise the depressed and to lower the walls between creeds and castes and hostile interests. The task will be far from easy, but I am confident that you will not shrink from it.

I now declare the new Legislative Council for the Madras Presidency established under the Government of India Act, 1919, to be duly open, and I join with your Excellency and with all those who love India in a heartfelt prayer for the Almighty's guidance in your labours.

The President of the Council, the Hon'ble Sir P. Rajagopalachari, thanked His Royal Highness on behalf of the Members of the Legislative Council in the following terms :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

On behalf of the Madras Legislative Council, I beg Your Royal Highness to convey to His Majesty the Council's sentiment of profound loyalty and devotion to his august Throne and person and also to tender its most respectful thanks for His Majesty's gracious message through the person of Your Royal Highness to-day. I beg Your Royal Highness to convey to His Gracious Majesty the assurance that this Council will do its utmost to justify the confidence reposed in it.

This concluded the inauguration ceremony, which occupied in all about twenty minutes. His Royal Highness then left the Council Chamber accompanied by His Excellency Lord Willingdon and the members of the personal Staffs, salutes being fired both on His Royal Highness' arrival and departure.

At Calcutta.

On the 28th January His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught arrived by special train at noon at Howrah, and was received with enthusiasm. The Howrah station, the Howrah bridge and the line of route were tastefully decorated with flags and buntings, and floral arches with suitable inscriptions had been erected at various places. At the Howrah station His Royal Highness, who was wearing the Field-Marshal's uniform and seemed to carry his years exceedingly well, was met, as he alighted from the train, by His Excellency the Governor and his Personal Staff. A salute of 31 guns was fired from Fort William, and His Excellency the Governor presented the following gentlemen to His Royal Highness :—

The Chief Justice (Sir Lancelot Sanderson).

The Bishop of Calcutta and Metropolitan of India.

The Members of the Governor's Executive Council, Sir Henry Wheeler, Sir Bijoy Chand Mahtab, Maharāja of Burdwan, Sir Abdur Rahim, and Mr. John Kerr.

The three Ministers Sir Surendranath Banerjea, Mr. P. C. Mitter and Nawab Sayed Nawab Ali Chowdhuri.

Sir Havelock Hudson, General Officer Commanding in Chief Eastern Command.

Mr. J. N. Gupta, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

Mr. T. Emerson, Magistrate, Howrah.

Babu Charu Chandra Sinha, Chairman of the Howrah Municipality.

Mr. M. R. G. Hyde, Inspector-General of Police.

Mr. R. Clarke, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

Sir Charles Godfrey, Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway.

Mr. C. D. M. Hindley, Agent, East Indian Railway.

Other presentations included :—

Colonel E. E. Waters, Civil Surgeon, Howrah.

Mr. R. E. Bradley, Superintendent, Railway Police.

Mr. P. Leo Faulkner, Superintendent of Police, Howrah.

Mr. J. S. Wilson, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

Mr. W. R. Gourlay, and Major Vaux.

Major Harvey, Aide-de-Camp to His Royal Highness.

Miss Mackenzie and nurses from the Howrah General Hospital.

Mr. Dyer, District Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Walsh, Station Superintendent.

Messrs. Clarke and Grant, Assistant Station Superintendents.

Mr. Derry, Engineer who had been responsible for the decorations at the Station.

His Royal Highness left the station accompanied by His Excellency's bodyguard, a squadron of the 15th Lancers and a section of the 114th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, from Allahabad.

At the Dalhousie Institute as His Royal Highness alighted from his carriage, he was received at the gate by the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, who conducted him to the canopy where the Municipal Commissioners were waiting to accord their respectful welcome. Mr. Donald on behalf of the Corporation read the following address :—

Address of welcome presented by the Calcutta Corporation to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught on 28th January, 1921.

The Chairman then read the address of welcome which was as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We, the Chairman and Commissioners of the Corporation of Calcutta, on behalf of the people of this City, offer to Your Royal Highness a most respectful and hearty welcome.

The gratification which the citizens of Calcutta feel to-day in welcoming Your Royal Highness is enhanced by their recollection of Your Royal Highness' previous sojourn in India, and by the thought that Your Royal Highness is not a stranger to this City.

During your brief stay in Calcutta Your Royal Highness will notice many striking changes that have taken place in the years which have elapsed since Your Royal Highness first honoured us with your presence in 1883. Calcutta has improved beyond recognition in many respects. The very appearance of the City testifies to the rapid and remarkable advance of its trade and commerce, and to the prosperity of its people.

We may claim that in civic and social activities we have not been backward. Calcutta has contended not unsuccessfully with problems arising from the magnitude of its population, the difficulties of its

physical position, and its climate. We are working with a steady purpose towards the provision of broad streets, sanitary housing accommodation, better educational facilities, an adequate supply of pure water, and other amenities of a great modern city.

It is not only in Calcutta but throughout the Indian Empire that Your Royal Highness will find abundant evidence of progress and promise of future growth in all directions. India now stands on the threshold of a new era and we deem it a further proof of the abiding and sympathetic interest of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor in the welfare and advancement of her people that Your Royal Highness has undertaken this arduous journey to inaugurate the new constitution on behalf of His Imperial Majesty. Encouraged by the consciousness of the sympathy of the King-Emperor, and by the memory of His message of hope, the people of India will face their new responsibilities with confidence.

In conclusion, we request Your Royal Highness to convey to His Imperial Majesty an assurance of our unflinching loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's Person and Throne and to express both our profound regret at the postponement, through reasons of health, of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this country and the eagerness with which all classes and communities in India are looking forward to His visit in the near future.

We trust that Your Royal Highness will enjoy to the full your present tour in this country and we pray that Your Royal Highness may be blessed with long life, health and prosperity.

The Duke of Connaught made the following reply :—

*Reply of His Royal Highness to the Calcutta Corporation
Address on 28th January 1921.*

CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION, .

I thank you for the friendly terms in which your welcome to me is couched and I am deeply gratified at this opportunity of renewing my acquaintance with your great city. It is an old acquaintance—older, I perceive, than that of many of the City Fathers who are present here to greet me, some of whom indeed are entitled to regard me as a very remote Echo of Old Calcutta. For as you point out in your address, my acquaintance with you goes back for nearly 40 years, and though

it has been occasionally renewed and refreshed, I know well that you have advanced by giant strides since I last passed over the Howrah Bridge, and it will be of deep interest to me to see the various developments which you have effected, and which, under the ægis of your Improvement Trust, you now contemplate.

I yield to no man in affection for the beautiful city of Bombay, where I spent several years of my life and I must be very guarded in what I say. But there is no overlooking the vast extent, the immense population, the amazing growth and the capable administration of this huge trade emporium, and when I see the ships lying in the Hooghly, I feel "Here in Calcutta is the Port of London and here in Asia is the London of the East."

You speak sympathetically of my mission, and it comes forcibly to my mind how potent is the influence of a city such as this in moulding the public opinion of a country, in setting the standards of public conduct in places far distant from the city gates. Here, you are men of affairs who have learnt not to mistake the shadow for the substance. It is through the exercise of common sense and tolerance that the city of Calcutta has achieved her high eminence in the world, and, in the new chapter of Indian political development which it is my mission to open, Calcutta must necessarily exercise a predominant influence. I have every confidence that her citizens will continue to be animated by those qualities which have served them and their country so well in the past, and that the lessons learnt here and the results achieved here will guide others to look to this city for light and leading.

Gentlemen, I thank you cordially for your good wishes and will gladly convey to His Majesty the King-Emperor your message of loyalty and devotion. I share with you most eagerly the hope that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will shortly visit India and win here the same widespread affection which his magnetic personality has evoked in other parts of the British Empire.

On the 29th January His Royal Highness unveiled the Statue of King Edward the VII within the grounds of the Victoria Memorial Hall before a large and representative gathering. On his arrival at about 10-30 A.M. he was met by His Excellency the Governor, who presented to His Royal Highness the following Members of the Committee:—

The Chief Justice of Bengal, Sir Lancelot Sanderson.

The Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore Bahadur.
 Sir Alexander Murray, Chairman, Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
 Mr. W. H. Phelps, Master of the Trades' Association.
 The Reverend Dr. Brice Meuleman.
 The Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald, Chairman, Calcutta Corporation.
 Sir Deva Prasad Sarbadhikari.
 Sir Rajendra Nath Mukherjee.
 Raja Hrishikesh Law.
 Raja Kishore Lal Goswami.
 Mr. R. D. Mehta.
 Mr. R. H. M. Rustonjee.
 Sir Hari Ram Goenka.
 Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
 Mr. J. A. Jones.
 Rai Janoki Nath Roy Bahadur.
 Rai Lalit Mohan Singh Roy Bahadur.
 Mr. J. A. Sandbrook.
 Mr. Stephenson, Chief Secretary.
 Mr. W. R. Gourlay, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.
 Mr. W. W. Hornell, Director of Public Instruction.

The introduction over, His Excellency the Governor, in inviting the Duke to unveil the Memorial said :—

*Address presented to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught
by the Président, King Edward Memorial Committee, on
29th January 1921.*

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

As President for the time being of the King Edward Memorial Committee, it is my privilege to invite Your Royal Highness to unveil the statue which forms part of the memorial raised by the people of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa to His late Majesty King Edward the Seventh. It was decided by those charged with the task of devising the most appropriate means of perpetuating the memory of a great and deeply beloved Sovereign, to erect in a conspicuous place a likeness of His late Majesty in bronze, so that there might constantly be brought to the minds of all who passed by the inspiring example of one whose paternal solicitude for the well being of his subjects of all races and all

creeds enshrined him in the hearts of his people, and who so lived and so laboured that he received as a spontaneous gift from humanity at large the glorious title of the Peacemaker.

On the site, therefore, where we are now assembled, selected by His Majesty King George V on the occasion of his royal visit to Calcutta in January 1912, we have raised up on ground hallowed by the memory of another exalted member of Your Royal House—the late Queen Victoria, Empress of India—a statue in bronze executed by the skilful hands of Mr. Bertram Mackennal. And we trust that when the veil is lifted, it will be deemed by Your Royal Highness to be a monument worthy alike of him whose life and achievements it commemorates, and of the task which it is designed to fulfil.

After defraying the cost of the statue, there is at our disposal a balance of rather more than three lakhs of rupees, and it was decided by those who inaugurated the fund, bearing in mind the profound personal interest in, and sympathy for, human suffering which were such marked characteristics of His late Majesty, that there was no object to which this balance could be more appropriately devoted than to measures of medical relief. As the Province of Bihar and Orissa has since been formed out of territory at that time within the boundaries of Bengal, the balance available has been divided between the two provinces. And of the share due to the former province—whose destinies now lie in the capable hands of His Excellency Lord Sinha—a sum of R1,25,000 has already been made over by the Committee for the establishment of a provincial branch of the Lady Dufferin Fund.

In Bengal, the demand for medical relief in all its aspects—medical schools and colleges, hospitals, dispensaries and sanatoria, investigation and research—is great. And a small Committee has been appointed to advise us as to the best use to which the sum, estimated at a lakh and sixty thousand rupees, can be put.

May I now invite Your Royal Highness to be graciously pleased to unveil the memorial ?

Reply of His Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness made the following reply :—

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I am deeply touched by the words you have spoken, and by the ceremony which you have asked me to perform to-day.

The solemn act of perpetuating, in visible form, the memory of a great King cannot fail to stir the emotions of all those who hold his reign and his personality in reverent remembrance. For a brother, it has a significance which you will not expect me to put into words.

Here, on the Calcutta Maidan, you have placed Memorials of many men whose chief life's work lay in India. The King-Emperor, Edward VII, was called upon to play his part on a larger stage. But those who knew him well, and his sentiments towards the people of this country, will agree that his claim upon their affection is no less, because his work did not lie in their midst. For, throughout his life, he evinced the deepest regard and affection for India. Every question affecting India's welfare was near his heart, and was sure of his sympathetic interest, and to his world-statesmanship India owes many years of peace and prosperity.

King Edward was the first heir to the British Throne to visit this Country. As was to be expected in a Prince of such unique qualities of head and heart, his personality created a deep impression wherever he went, and he, on his side, gathered vivid impressions. I well remember how, on his way back to England in 1876, I met him at Gibraltar where I was then serving. His enthusiastic description of his Indian experiences and his expressions of admiration and affection for the people of India, are still a fresh memory with me to-day—to-day, when after the lapse of so many years, and he is no longer with us, we are gathered here to pay honour to his memory.

The Memorial is a tribute from the people of the two provinces of Bengal, and of Bihar and Orissa, and I am glad to learn that it includes measures for the relief of pain and suffering, for there is no object with which the name of King Edward could be more fittingly associated.

I will now unveil the statue you have erected. It is well that in this historic spot, of such varied associations, there should stand a monument in memory of so great and noble a Sovereign.

On the 1st February His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught inaugurated the New Bengal Council. The members of the Legislative Council had responded with such enthusiasm to the summons to be present at the function that 142 out of the 143 seats provided for the

Members were occupied. His Excellency the Governor in requesting His Royal Highness to inaugurate the Council said :—

*Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor of Bengal at the
Inauguration of the Legislative Council, on 1st February
1921.*

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We deeply appreciate and are profoundly grateful for your presence here to-day for the purpose of inaugurating the new constitution conferred by Parliament upon the people of this Presidency. And we see in this gracious act yet one more signal proof—if proof, indeed, were needed—of the close and unceasing personal interest taken by His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor and his Royal House in all that appertains to the welfare and progress of the people of his Indian Empire. The occasion is an historic one and will for all time stand out as an arresting finger-post upon the road leading to that goal towards which India is eagerly travelling. Sir, when in this connection we speak in the language of metaphor of a goal towards which we are travelling, the picture which forms itself upon the screen of our consciousness is that of some splendid edifice rising through the haze of distance upon the horizon and shaping itself in ever clearer outline to our gaze as we travel towards it along a broad highway. We are, perhaps, apt to overlook the difference which exists between distance in time and distance in space. In the evolution of a nation, though the goal may be pictured, the gulf to be bridged before we reach it is one of time and not one of space ; and every inch of the road thither has still, therefore, to be made. The survey may have been carried out and the direction posts set up, but the actual road must be builded day by day by the nation itself as it moves forward on its onward course, and upon those who lead the nation rests the responsibility for its safe construction. The responsibility is one not to be lightly assumed, for upon the wise discharge of it hangs the fate of countless numbers of their fellowmen. It is comparable to that of the Generals of an Army who, though provided by their expert advisers with a safe survey of the ground to be traversed, are yet tempted to adopt a line of advance, apparently more direct but fraught with dangers to which they wilfully close their eyes. Wisdom and experience urge one course ; impetuosity, ill-directed enthusiasm, possibly other motives as well, urge the other. The test

of their fitness to be entrusted with responsibility lies in their choice. Would the Army which puts its trust in them, or would posterity forgive them if, choosing fatefully and rashly, they were to lead it into the engulfing quicksand of tribulation and disaster?

Sir, those who are at once the representatives and the leaders of the people who are assembled here to-day have made their choice. They have accepted the alignment marked out for them along solid ground. And the task which now lies before them is the actual construction of the road. No easy one but a great and worthy one, and one moreover in which the rapidity with which it is completed, will be commensurate with the nature of the workmanship put in. All the greater is the care required on account of the novelty of some of the tools now being placed for the first time in the hands of those to whom the work has been committed.

It is easy to give concrete illustration of this latter statement. For the vast majority of those who now exercise it, the franchise is a hitherto untried implement. Prior to this the members of the Legislature have been nominated thereto or elected by strictly circumscribed electorates. Generally speaking the vote has been the prerogative of a limited number of persons enjoyed by reasons of the special position which they occupied, such as membership of a Municipal or District Board or of a special Association, such as a Chamber of Commerce or the University Senate, or of a special community such as the great landholders of the Presidency. With such elections the mass of the people have had no concern. And the total number of electors of all classes who have had any share in returning members to the Legislative Council of the past has not exceeded 12,000. As compared with this, the persons entitled to return members to the Legislative Council which meets for the first time to-day, number approximately one million twenty thousand—a sufficiently dramatic indication of the extent to which power has been conferred upon the people. Equally significant is the revolution wrought in the composition and character of the Council itself. The former Council consisted of 53 members; the present Council of 139. Of the former body 28 members only, or a bare majority were elected; of the total of the present body 113 or 81 per cent. Of the former body a little over one-third were officials; of the present body 13 per cent. only. Such figures speak for themselves. But the immensity of the stride which has been taken towards the goal of responsible self-government cannot be fully appreciated without a reference to the complete change which has simultaneously

been effected in the Executive Government. In place of an Executive consisting, apart from the Governor, of two European officials and one Indian non-official gentleman, there has now been established an Executive of two European officials and five Indian non-official gentlemen ; in other words, the Indian element in the Executive Government of the country has been converted from a permanent minority to a permanent and overwhelming majority. Further, of the five Indian Members of the Government, three are elected Members of this Council, and in respect of the subjects which they administer including such vitally important matters as Local Self-Government, Public Health, Medical Administration, Education, Agriculture, the development of Industries, the Administration of Excise and of Public Works, stand *vis-a-vis* the Council in a position which, if not wholly identical with, is at least analogous to, that of Members of the Cabinet to the Parliament of Great Britain. These are momentous changes the mere enumeration of which is, perhaps, sufficient to justify the emphasis which I have laid upon the necessity for the exercise of extreme care in the building of every successive foot of the road which is the task which now awaits us. My personal experience of the high devotion to duty and the broad and sympathetic vision of the officials with whom I am proud to have been associated in the Government of Bengal during the past four years ; of the intellectual ability, the courtesy and the warm-hearted generosity of spirit of the people of Bengal ; and of the disinterested advice and the assistance which I have invariably received from the non-official members of my own community, encourage me to regard the future with high hope. The fact that this Council meets to-day in the second city in the whole vast Empire over which His Majesty holds sway, bears striking testimony to the nature of the contribution which the representatives of the European community can make to the common stock of our available resources. And, indeed, it would be difficult to conceive of a more effective combination of qualities than those of the two great communities now ranged side by side—the shrewd business acumen of the one and the inspired idealism of the other. One thing only is necessary to render operative in this unique combination its tremendous potentialities—the will to succeed. It is given to every man to contribute something towards this, the supreme necessity of the day, the creating of a will to co-operate—a will to succeed. And for myself I joyfully dedicate the remainder of my term of service in Bengal to the furtherance of a steadily growing partnership between the Bengali and British races ; and offer the hand of help and friendship to all who, inspired by a common pur-

pose—the orderly progress of this land towards its appointed destiny—are prepared to work whole-heartedly for the effacement of all obstacles standing in the way of cordial co-operation in the supreme interests of the common weal.

The Duke in opening the New Chamber made the following speech :—

Speech by His Royal Highness.

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN OF THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

To-day it is my pleasing task to open the second of that series of new legislatures which, by command of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, I have come to India to inaugurate. The King-Emperor has commissioned me to bring you his cordial good wishes on an occasion which Your Excellency justly terms historic. You all know His Imperial Majesty's regard for this proud city of Calcutta, and for the people of Bengal: and I can assure you of the deep interest with which he watches the far-reaching changes beginning with the ceremony of to-day.

Upon the pleasure which it gives me personally to perform this duty, I need not dwell; nor upon my gratification at the warmth of your welcome. Though more directly acquainted, during my past sojourn in India, with a presidency with which you maintain a healthy and generous rivalry, I should be the last to deny the eminence of Bengal among the provinces of the Indian Empire, or the unique connexion of Calcutta with the administrative developments which have marked the long and momentous association between the United Kingdom and this country.

It is that eminence and this connexion which will direct upon the deliberations of your Council the anxious gaze of all who, like myself, cherish great expectations of the era which is dawning upon the Indian Empire. Anxious, I say, because the task imposed on you and the sister legislatures, which are coming simultaneously into being, is a task of no ordinary complexion. You have to take at once a heavy and responsible share in providing the laws and finance for a skilled and highly technical administration. In one area, by no means small or unimportant, of the administrative field, your responsibility will be closer. For within it, the policy and conduct of the actual executive will repose on.

the shoulders of Ministers drawn from your ranks ; and it will be for you to advise, support and, where necessary, criticise and control them in their course. But, while thus engaged on the one hand, on the other, you will ever have to bear in mind the people in whose name you act, and to remember that the progress of the country must remain imperfect, so long as the great majority of them, so long indeed as any substantial section of them, are unable to follow your work with intelligence. The training and expansion of the electorate will be just as much your duty, as the conduct and direction of the administration. All these varied parts you will have to play, with a sobriety of language, a sanity of judgment, an impartiality of decision, a freedom from passion and prejudice, which will not only satisfy critics of the new constitution, but will justify a jury of the British Parliament ten years hence, in enlarging the scope of your administrative activities.

In this labyrinth of cares and labours, what clue can I suggest for your guidance ? To my mind, as I am sure to yours, there is only one,—that your sole thought should always be the betterment of your countrymen, and not of any class or section, but of all. The test by which political assemblies are judged, all the world over, is not ingenuity of dialectic or mere political craftsmanship, but the good government of the people and the progress of the country. In that respect your programme is heavy indeed. There are at least three vast problems with which you will at once come to grips : they are within the sphere of Ministers, and are of special prominence in Bengal. One is the intense popular demand for education, and the provision, in response thereto, of a type of education which will fit the rising generation to be good citizens. The second, in reality complementary to the first, is the creation of industrial opportunities and an industrial spirit, to relieve the tremendous pressure on the land and the economic evils which must result. The third is a higher standard of health and vitality, particularly among the inhabitants of your wide malarial tracts. In the field of material progress there could be few problems of more surpassing difficulty than these three. There could also be few more costly ; and this consideration is a special anxiety to you in Bengal where, I understand, the public revenues are circumscribed and somewhat inelastic. The solution of these questions and their finance will call for equally heroic treatment.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, you will not expect me to attempt a survey of your future labours. They will range from such matters as I have mentioned, to those infinitely delicate questions of social emancipation, in which India will look to Bengal, as so often in

the past, to take the lead. Believe me, the magnitude of your task is realised, and its difficulties are appreciated by those of us who will be watching you, with friendly and sympathetic eyes, during the years which lie ahead. We hope for your success : we are cheered by auguries of it to-day. There could be no finer augury than the striking address which has just been delivered by His Excellency Lord Ronaldshay, your sympathetic and stout-hearted Governor. For to him, it is certain that you will always be able to turn for help and advice ; and, I am sure, to the officers who serve under him, and to his and their successors. But the happiest augury of all is in yourselves. In the political progress of India the Bengali race has ever been in the van ; its leaders, endowed with oratory and brilliance of intellect, have inspired the cause of reform ; in the sphere of literature, philosophy, science and art, its gifts have been strikingly displayed ; in the realms of jurisprudence and public life, its sons have been conspicuous figures. Associated in Council with the leaders of Bengal will be the European fellow-citizens, official and non-official, to whose peculiar genius the India of to-day owes both its system of orderly administration and its great commercial and industrial connexions with the world at large. In this combination I see grounds for the highest expectations. Working side by side, mindful of each other's interests and ideals, ever bending their minds to cordial co-operation, the leaders of the Bengali and the British communities will, I earnestly pray, so serve this great province, that it will ere long attain a position of fresh lustre, happiness and prosperity in the confederation of the British Empire.

I now formally declare the Legislative Council of Bengal, as constituted under the Government of India Act, 1919, to be duly open.

Nawab Syed Sir Shams-ul-Huda thanked His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught on behalf of the Members of the Legislative Council in the following terms :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

On behalf of the members of this Council it is my privilege respectfully to acknowledge the gracious message of His Majesty the King-Emperor, which your Royal Highness has just delivered to us. In the discharge of the duties into which we are about to enter this message will always continue to inspire and stimulate us. We pray that Your

Royal Highness may be pleased to convey to His Majesty the assurance of loyalty and devotion of the people of Bengal to His Majesty's Throne and Person.

On Wednesday the 2nd February His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught laid the commemoration stone at King George's Dock in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering. His Royal Highness, who was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor of Bengal, arrived at the Jetty at the site of the new Dock by the Port Commissioner's steamer "Howrah" and was met by the Port Commissioners who were presented by the Chairman. The Port Commissioners present were :—

Raja Reshee Case Law.
 Mr. W. C. Bannerjee,
 Mr. C. D. M. Hindley.
 Mr. J. Coates.
 Mr. C. B. Ismay.
 Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth.
 Mr. J. H. Pattinson.
 Mr. J. E. Roy.
 Mr. R. O. Law.
 Mr. C. W. E. Cotton.
 Mr. J. Campbell.
 Mr. F. C. Danger.
 Mr. C. F. Hooper.

The Chairman read the following address on behalf of the Port Commissioners :—

Address of Welcome by Port Commissioners.

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to-day, on behalf of the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta and of the trade and commerce of Bengal whose interests they represent, to offer a hearty welcome to our Royal Visitor, to express our thanks to His Royal Highness for graciously consenting formally to inaugurate the great scheme of development now being undertaken by the Calcutta Port Trust, and our appreciation of the sympathy with, and interest in, our affairs which is manifested by His presence here to-day.

Before the close of last year, the Calcutta Port Trust had completed 50 years of work. Of the five decades which have elapsed since the initiation of the Trust in 1869, the first period, terminating in the year 1880, may be characterized as that in which the Trust justified its institution, its constitution and its methods of work and finance. The tonnage entering the Port increased, roughly, by 50 per cent. from 1 million to $1\frac{1}{2}$ million tons, the receipts of the Trust more than doubled, and the expenditure increased in a corresponding degree. The Calcutta Jetties, which then formed the most important portion of the material facilities provided by the Trust, were extended from four berths to eight, and their equipment was increased and improved in a corresponding degree.

During the second decade, from 1880 to 1890, the tonnage entering the Port showed a further increase of approximately 50 per cent. and the receipts and expenditure of the Trust grew to the same extent. During this period, it was realised that the Trust was called upon to make provision not only for vessels bringing imports by means of the Calcutta Jetties and the river moorings, but that modern facilities and equipment were also urgently required for export steamers, which, at that time, were loaded in the stream from boats in which the produce was conveyed from the railway terminals. The long discussions which followed regarding the nature and site of such additional accommodation eventually took shape in the proposals put forward by Mr. Duff Bruce, who occupied the post of Vice-Chairman from the commencement of the Trust's operations until 1889, for the construction of the Kidderpur Docks, the final sanction to which was received at the end of 1884. By the year 1890, this great work, of which Mr. A. M. Rendel (afterwards Sir Alexander Rendel) said before its commencement that "in his judgment, no docks had yet been built which had involved so many and such serious risks as these," had progressed, in spite of serious financial and physical difficulties, to the extent that the Tidal Basin had been completed and brought in use and that No. 1 Dock, the first and most important part, had almost reached completion.

In the third decade, from 1890 to 1900, which period coincided almost exactly with the tenure of office of Vice-Chairman by Mr. Apjohn, the tonnage entering the Port again increased by more than 50 per cent. while the receipts and expenditure of the Trust developed similarly. During the year 1892-93 No. 1 Dock at Kidderpore was completed at a total cost of some Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores and the first vessel to enter was admitted in June of that year. In the first instance, traders were somewhat

reluctant to divert the export trade from the stream to the Docks, but by the closing year of this period the advantages offered were being fully utilised, and with the rapid increase in the wheat and seeds and coal traffic, over 500 ships per annum, with a gross tonnage of about two million, were using the Docks.

In the fourth decade, from 1900 to 1910, the tonnage of vessels entering the Port showed a further increase from $4\frac{1}{2}$ million to over 6 million tons, the receipts and expenditure of the Trust nearly doubled in amount, and the cargo handled by the Trust increased from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to over 5 million tons. This period, which comprised the greater part of Sir Frederick Dumayne's eminently successful tenure of office as Vice-Chairman, is remarkable both for the expansion and consolidation of work in many directions, and also for the first beginnings of the extensions which are now in hand. When the proposal for a coal export depot at Luff Point had been rejected by the Committee of Enquiry appointed to consider it, the Government of Bengal suggested the carrying out of a detailed enquiry into the increased demands likely to be made on the facilities of the Kidderpore Docks during the next 10 years. Mr. Frederick Palmer, then the Commissioners' Chief Engineer, was placed on special duty for this purpose, and his proposals, which, both in form and substance, have, to a large extent remained unmodified to this day, led to the acquisition of an additional area of some 1,600 acres, the greater portion of which is now being utilised for the construction of a new and independent Dock system.

The last and final period, from 1910 to 1920, it is necessary to divide into three portions, *viz.*, that which preceded the War, that which was occupied by the War, and that which has expired since the termination of hostilities. The first of these, from 1910 to 1914, witnessed some further development, but its most striking characteristic was the rapid overtaking by the Trade during the two years 1911-12 and 1912-13 of the capacity of the facilities then available. The tonnage entering the Port increased by approximately 1 million tons—from 6 to 7 million tons—the receipts and expenditure of the Trust rose in a corresponding degree, and the tonnage of cargo handled by the Commissioners from 5 million to 6 million tons. The Committee of Enquiry, which sat in the cold weather of 1913-14, definitely endorsed the Commissioners' own decision that the time had come when a commencement should be made with the proposed extensions in Garden Reach. The proposal to construct two additional Jetty berths between Chandpal and Outram Ghats was

rejected as open to objection and in any case inadequate, and the Commissioners' proposals for the construction as *ad interim* measures of relief of five additional Jetty berths in Garden Reach and the commencement of the new Dock scheme were recommended for acceptance. Work on the former was commenced without delay, and the arrangements for the new Dock scheme were put in hand. At the outbreak of War, a considerable amount had been done in connection with the Garden Reach berths, and during the first two years of the struggle, it was found possible in spite of many difficulties, to complete and bring into use the preferential coaling berth for the British India Company, which, under agreement with that Company, had replaced their old dépôt at Brace Bridge Hall near the site of which we now stand, and to complete, save for its crane equipment, the first and largest of the four General Produce Berths. As regards the new Dock scheme, there had been preliminary discussion, but plans and estimates were not complete and the work of execution had not been commenced. The preliminary discussions were continued and the sinking of three trial wells or monoliths was completed, with the result that valuable information and experience had been gained, but an effective commencement of work during the War was out of the question. Immediately after the Armistice the position was reviewed by the Commissioners; confident of the early revival of trade, they authorized arrangements with the principal contractors, Messrs. Braithwaite & Co., for the completion, on modified terms, of the three remaining Jetty berths in Garden Reach. As regards the prosecution of the Dock scheme, it was considered advisable to obtain the services of two expert Engineers from England, namely, Colonel Cartwright Reid and Mr. Wentworth Sheilds, the former to advise regarding the lay-out of the Docks, the dimensions and arrangement of the entrance lock and dry docks and the provision of water, the latter to advise regarding the type, size and equipment of the import and export sheds and the lay-out of a large new marshalling yard to provide for the whole of the Trust's railway work in connection with both Docks. After their visit, during last cold weather, came the appointment of staff, the provision of plant and materials, and commencement of work, which was definitely undertaken in February 1920, and which, as can readily be seen to-day, has made considerable progress.

Just before the outbreak of the War in 1914 an application was submitted by the Chairman of the Trust asking that the new Dock system should be named, after His Imperial Majesty, the King George's Dock. In the letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secretary of

State for India, conveying this request, the following words occur :—
 “ The Calcutta Port Trust is closely associated with Government and
 “ may, without question, be described as one of the most important and
 “ responsible corporations in India controlling mercantile operations and
 “ managing facilities for trade which compare with many of the great
 “ posts outside India. In recognition of the growing requirements of
 “ the Port the Port Commissioners have decided to construct a new
 “ series of Docks, the size and importance of which are indicated in the
 “ Chairman’s letter. Having regard both to the dignity of the corpora-
 “ tion and the magnitude of its new undertaking, we think that the high
 “ privilege which it seeks may suitably be conferred on it, and we support
 “ the recommendation of the Government of Bengal that the new Dock
 “ system may be designated by His Majesty’s name.” To that letter a
 reply was received, saying that His Majesty “ had been graciously
 pleased to comply with the desire of the Port Commissioners that the
 new Dock system at Calcutta should be called the ‘ The King George’s
 Dock’.”

The words of the Government of India, written at the commencement of the War, remain justified, in spite of the far-reaching consequences of that great struggle. Though the Trust was affected in many ways, it has emerged stronger and more prosperous than ever before. The expected revival of trade, if somewhat delayed, has, since the earlier part of 1920, been realized to an extraordinary extent. The demand for additional accommodation is more intense than ever before, and the resultant obligation on the Commissioners to prosecute their plans for its provision is correspondingly heavy. The scheme, details of which have been separately placed before you, is one for a new system of Docks, which, in respect of their capacity to deal with large ships, their facilities for the expeditious handling of cargoes, and the complementary railway and warehouse equipment, will be far in advance of anything hitherto provided in the Port of Calcutta and will, it is earnestly hoped, provide the commerce of Bengal with ample accommodation for many years to come.

It is these considerations which emboldened the Commissioners to ask for the distinction of His Majesty’s name, and it is in virtue of them that we have ventured to request the presence of Your Royal Highness here to-day, whom I now ask to lay this commemoration stone, to be placed in a prominent position on the Clock Tower which will stand at the entrance to the King George’s Dock.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught made the following reply :—

Reply by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to the Port Commissioners' address at Calcutta.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for your words of welcome and appreciation of my presence among you to-day. As you have said, my participation in this ceremony betokens the interest which His Majesty the King-Emperor and I myself, feel in your welfare and progress. There is no part of the British Empire which to-day excites a wider interest than this land of India,—no province which is more prosperous or more promising than Bengal, and it is but natural that the continued success of this great port, which is so intimately linked with your commerce and industry, should be to us a matter of deep and abiding interest.

In the address which has been presented to me you have outlined, from certain important aspects, the history of the Calcutta Port Trust since its inception just over 50 years ago. You have shown that the final decision of Government in the far-distant “sixties”, to entrust the care of so many matters connected with the Administration of the port to a separate body, representative of the trade and commerce of Calcutta, was a wise one, and that the trust reposed in you by Government has been well justified. You have shown how the trade has responded, with almost embarrassing promptness, to the facilities provided, and how within the comparatively short space of 50 years Calcutta has risen to a position which places it, I am told, within the first dozen of the world's ports and within the first four or five of those situated within the confines of the British Empire.

If I may introduce a note of criticism regarding this review of your past history, it is that so little has been said of the difficulties and disadvantages which you and your predecessors have courageously faced and successfully met. I believe there is no port of a size approaching that of Calcutta, so far distant from the sea as the 82 miles, which separate the city from Saugor Lighthouse—still less one which has to cope with bars and shoals so numerous or presenting such difficulties of control. You are the more to be congratulated for the success with which you have maintained and developed the port. While you have met the requirements of a larger trade and a rapid increase in the size of your vessels,

you have at the same time paid full attention to the necessity of ensuring greater safety. You have improved and developed the buoying and lighting of your channels, you have increased the number and frequency of your survey operations, you have provided for navigation by night, within certain limits, and have introduced modern methods of dredging your difficult and varying channels. Such results, one can readily believe, have only been attained by the expenditure of large sums of money, and by the faithful service of a highly trained and skilful staff. It is, I believe, a matter of common knowledge that, each in his own sphere, the Hooghly Pilot, the Commissioners' Survey Officer, and Harbour Master have contributed to the safety and prosperity of your port.

Nor must I forget the Engineer. Calcutta is, I understand, built on alluvial soil and lacks the rocky foundations which gave to the rival port of Bombay not only a picturesque harbour but better foundations and useful materials for the construction of their Dock system. Here nature has done less and man has had to do more, and well have your Engineers, past and present, risen to the occasion. As you have just pointed out, your existing Dock system was characterized, before work was commenced upon it, as involving unique risks and difficulties, yet these and many others have been successfully overcome. Having regard to the fact that your present scheme is to provide facilities on a scale far in advance of those provided in the Kidderpore Docks, it follows, I presume, that the difficulties of construction will be correspondingly greater, but it is my confident belief, as it is my earnest hope, that a similar measure of success will attend the execution of your present proposals.

Thus far I have touched briefly on some of your difficulties and disadvantages. It is now my pleasanter duty to turn to the counter-vailing advantages which you enjoy. Your distance from the sea-board places you so much the nearer to the chief source of your power, the Bengal coal-fields, to the rich plain of the Ganges, the jute-growing districts and the tea gardens of Bengal and Assam. How fully you have utilized the advantages of this proximity is obvious to the visitor, in your jute-mills, which played so important a part in the great war, and in your exports of coal, tea and other produce. You are as fortunate in possessing so varied a combination of great staples, as you are to be congratulated on the energy and enterprize with which they have been developed.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is one word of advice with which I would close my remarks. Times are changing and we must change with

them : your trade and commerce may, indeed must, undergo many and important modifications. India, from being purely an agricultural country, is, in the opinion of many who are well qualified to judge, about to enter—indeed has partially entered—upon an epoch of industrial activity for which she is in many ways well-fitted, alike by her fertile soil, her mineral possessions, and her diligent peoples. These developments will affect your trade, and changes will be required in your industrial and commercial arrangements. But I have no cause to doubt that, provided you gentlemen, who are responsible for the port of Calcutta, exercise in the future, as you have in the past, the great qualities of intelligent foresight, business enterprize and prudent finance, you will carry this port of Calcutta to a degree of prosperity which will place it yet higher among the great ports of the world and which will ensure and facilitate the further growth in trade and commerce of this great province of Bengal and of the other provinces which you serve.

On the 4th February His Royal Highness left Calcutta for Agra.

At Agra.

On the 6th February 1921, at Agra on the occasion of the presentation of colours to the King's Own Scottish Borderers His Royal Highness made the following speech :—

KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.

It is a very great pleasure to me to be here to-day to present you with your new Colours, more especially so as the Regiment served under me at Meerut in 1884-85 and I have inspected the Regiment in many different parts of the world. I am very glad to see that it has in recent years covered itself with distinction thus upholding its glorious traditions of the past. The British Army has a wonderful history and I may say that the history of the British Army is the history of the British Empire. It is due to its bravery and endurance that peace and happiness have been brought to countries where this had been previously unknown, and prepared the way for the Civil authorities to carry on after them their peaceful administration. I have before me a few notes on the records of the Regiment and, though I hope that every officer, non-commissioned officer and man knows these, I should just like to refer to them :—

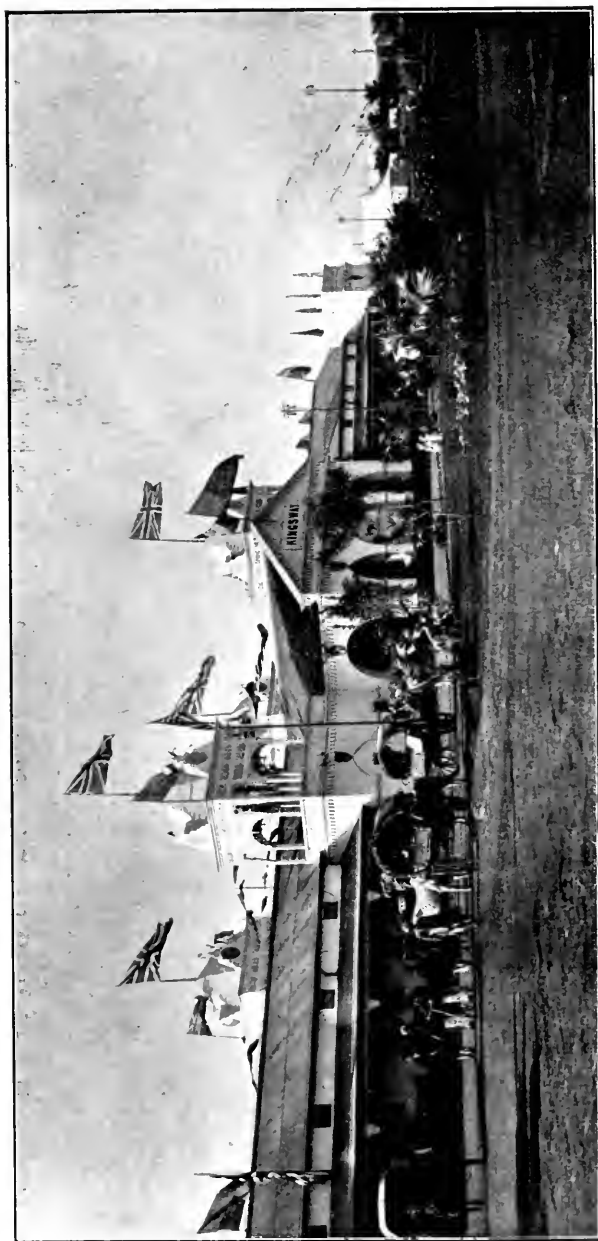
“ This regiment was raised in the City of Edinburgh on the 19th March 1689, and recruited up to its establishment of one thousand men within the space of four hours by the Earl of Leven.

On the 27th July of the same year it took part in its first engagement at Killiecrankie and was commended for bravery and resolution.

In 1691 it went to Ireland, from which country it embarked for Flanders in March 1692 and took part in many engagements, suffering a loss of 20 Officers and over 500 men killed by the explosion of a mine on the 27th July 1695 at the siege of Namur in spite of which it attacked again and secured its objective.

After service in Gibraltar and the West Indies it found itself again in the Low Country, fighting with the greatest gallantry at Fontenoy in 1745.

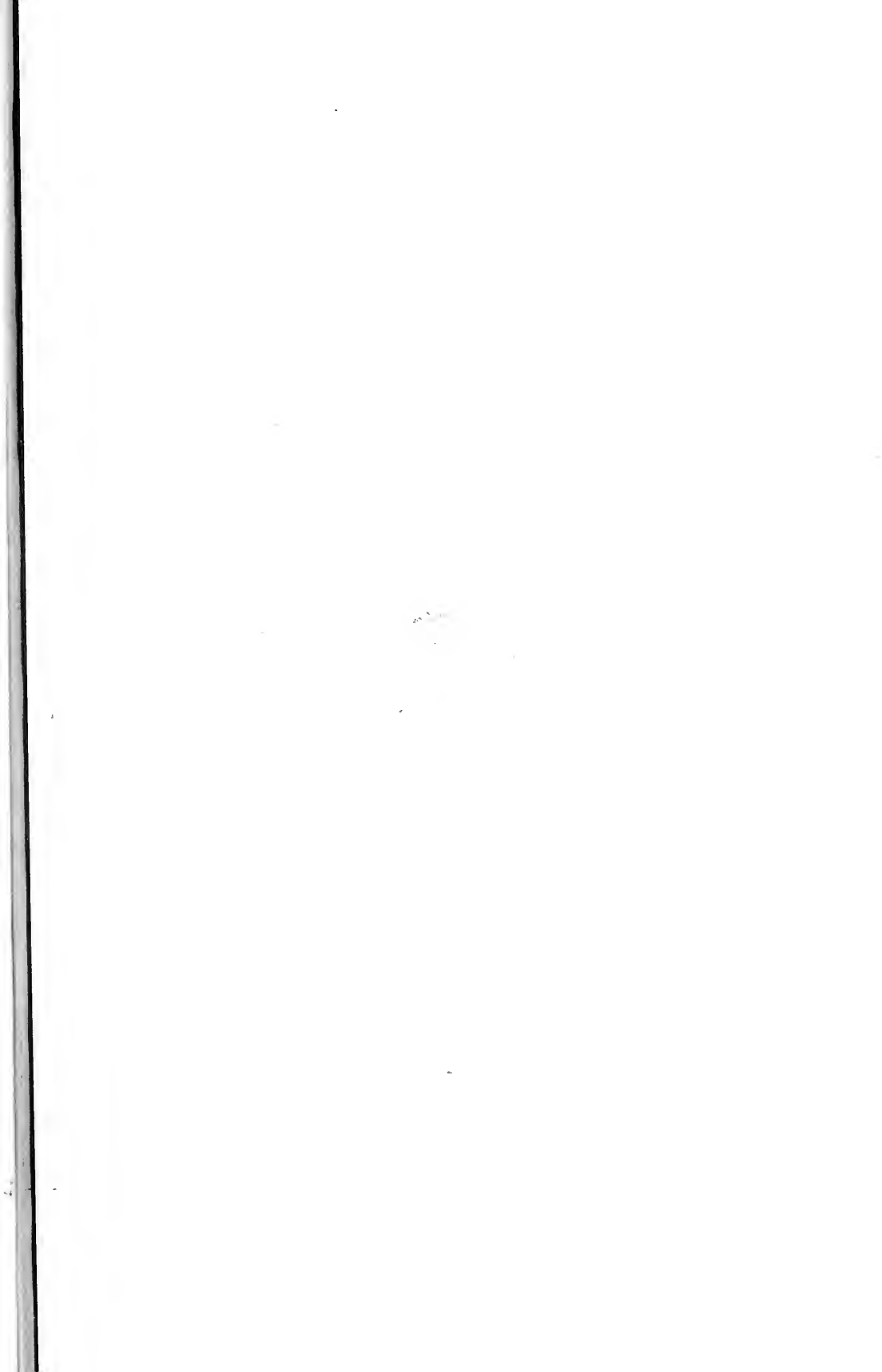
Going once more to Ireland it returned to Germany in 1758 and together with five other British Regiments gained immortal glory at Minden.



No. 1.—A VIEW OF KINGSWAY STATION.



No. 2.—H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT ALIGHTING AT KINGSWAY STATION.





No. 3.—INTRODUCTIONS TO H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

On 7th May 1805, King George III created the Regiment a Royal Regiment and altered its facings from Yellow to Blue.

It then saw a lot of service as Marines under Lord Howe in 1794.

It was specially mentioned for distinguished services at Martinique in 1809.

Since then the Regiment has done its duty in many minor campaigns on the frontiers of this country (India).

It served with distinction throughout the South African War, and during the last European War it has worthily maintained its traditions, having been present with the 29th Division at the landing in Gallipoli on the 25th April 1915, and practically all the subsequent actions on that Peninsula.

In France it was present at Beaumont Hamel on 1st July 1916, Battle of the Somme 1916, Arras April 1917, Passendale August 1917, Cambrai November 1917, and the battle of Lys April 1918, being three times specially mentioned in Despatches for Gallantry.

Apart from valour in the field, this Regiment has always maintained a high standard of Conduct and Discipline.

In May 1797, when attempts were being made to seduce the Garrison at Plymouth from its allegiance, the Sergeants of the Regiment offered a reward of 10 guineas to any body securing a conviction of the Author, Printer and Distributor of papers, or Hand-bills Criminal, to the Military Establishment and Laws of the Country, or for any information against any person found guilty of bribing with money, or of holding out any false allurements to any soldier tending to injure the good order and discipline of the Army.

Again when leaving Madras in 1853 the Governor commented upon the Regiment as being of exemplary conduct and discipline.

New Colours have been presented to this Battalion in 1763, 1856 and 1863."

I now hand over to your keeping your new Colours, emblems of loyalty to your King, your Regiment and your country. May you always look upon them as such.

Borderers, the honour of your Regiment is wrapt in these colours, guard them with loyalty and determination and do your utmost to preserve through these emblems the honour entrusted to you. I wish all prosperity to your gallant Regiment, which I know will always serve in the future as it has done in the past.

At Delhi.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught reached Delhi by Special Train at 3 P.M. on the 7th February in brilliant weather and was accorded an enthusiastic reception by hundreds of spectators including representatives of all races. At the platform His Royal Highness was met by the Viceroy and the Members of his Executive Council, the Political Secretary to Government and the Chief Commissioner of Delhi. The Chief Commissioner of Delhi led His Royal Highness to the entrance hall of the Station where he introduced to him the Members of the Municipality. The Chairman of the Municipality read the following address of welcome :—

Address of welcome presented by the Municipality of Delhi to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught on 7th February 1921.

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

On behalf of the citizens of Delhi, we, the President and Members of the Municipal Committee, venture to approach Your Royal Highness with a hearty welcome to our historic city, and with an assurance of our loyalty and devotion to the Person and Throne of His Imperial Majesty, whom Your Royal Highness has come to represent. We all deplore the absence, on this occasion, of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who has earned a well merited period of rest after his arduous labours in other parts of the Empire, but we welcome the most happy choice of a substitute in Your Royal Highness, whose disposition has already won its way to all our hearts, and whose previous connection with India in general, and with Delhi in particular, will renew old associations, and recall to mind past memories. Since Your Royal Highness' last visit to this city, Delhi has been restored to her old pride of place as capital of India. As a Province she unhappily does not attain the dimensions of the old metropolitan Province of the Moghal Emperor, but as a capital she has enlarged her bounds out of all recognition and taken to herself vast tracts which have been cleared of the wreckage of centuries, and are fast being transformed into an orderly area of spacious roads and magnificent public buildings. Nor has the old city, which we have the privilege of representing, lagged behind the younger daughters which have grown up around her.

Our municipal administration has been completely reorganised, communications have been extensively improved, an elaborate drainage system has contributed to the justice of our boast that Delhi is one of the cleanest cities in India, and far reaching schemes for the development of the crowded western suburbs, and for the expansion of the teeming city population, to the healthy uplands on the west, are rapidly nearing fulfilment. But the greatest change of all is that which in the reformed Legislatures and Chamber of Princes, Your Royal Highness has come to inaugurate. By the Government of India Act, to quote the terms of the instructions issued under the Royal Sign Manual to the Governors of the presidencies and of provinces, provision has been made for the gradual development of self-governing institutions in British India with a view to a progressive realisation of responsible self-Government in this country as an integral part of the Empire. On behalf of the inhabitants of this city, we beg to render our respectful thanks to His Imperial Majesty for this share in this boon which has graciously been conceded to Imperial enclave. It is fitting, however, that in the hour of rejoicing, we should remember those who fought and died, that we should be free, and in the all-India War Memorial of which Your Royal Highness will graciously lay the foundation stone, those who throng to the new capital from every confine of the Indian Empire, will find a perpetual remembrance of the self-sacrificing devotion of India's sons, so worthily represented in the gallant units of the Indian Army, now called to Delhi. In conclusion we pray that Your Royal Highness will continue for many years to be blessed with health and happiness, again bidding your Royal Highness welcome to Delhi." The address was signed by Messrs. R. C. Bolster, President, H. L. Shuttleworth, C. H. James, V. F. Gray, Muhammad Husain, Abdur Rahman, Amba Parshad, Ghayasuddin, Islamulla Khan, Gur Parshad, Madho Parshad, Sobha Singh, Shri Ram, Sultan Singh, A. A. Lane Roberts, Secretary.

His Royal Highness made the following reply :—

*Reply of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to the Delhi
Municipal Address on 7th February 1921.*

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

The pleasure of finding myself once again, after the lapse of many years, in these well known surroundings, and of recognising one by one,

as I approached them, the renowned landmarks of your city, is enhanced by the welcome you so kindly extend to me.

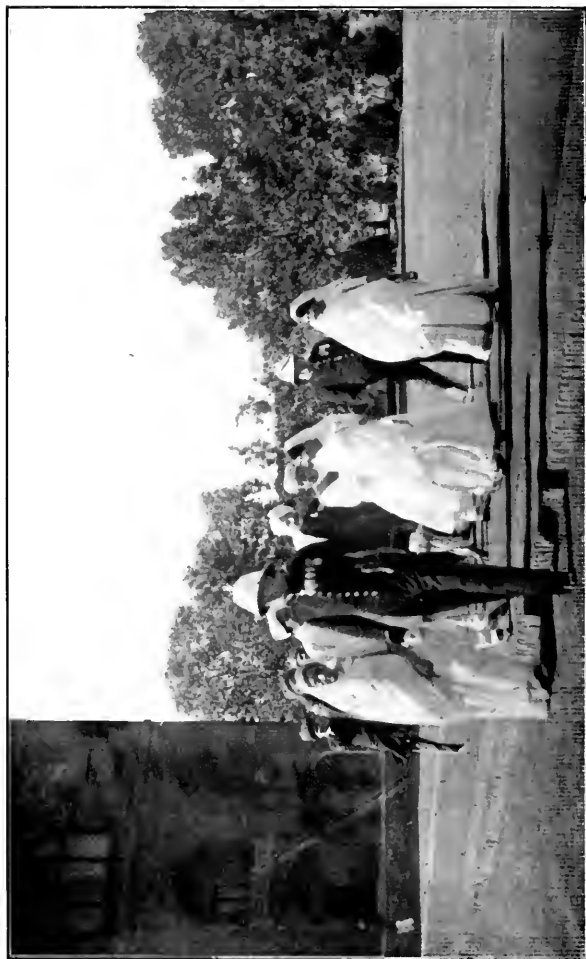
Your address inspires me with the confident hope that I may look to you for your help and good-will in the mission with which the King-Emperor has charged me, and which here is to reach its culminating point.

It is an arresting thought that Delhi, once the central setting of the old order, world-famous for its relics of despotic rule, should now, after a brief twilight, shine forth as the central stage of a new order of things, the parliamentary centre in which the elected representatives of the people assemble from every part of India. You have escaped the fate which has overtaken many ancient and half-forgotten cities. You are no mere museum of antiquity. You are alive with new vigour. You are historic and you are still making history. I congratulate you on the high status which has been conferred upon you. It entails great responsibilities, too obvious to call for any moralising on my part. But you must be ever mindful that Delhi has a great name among the cities of the world. Your municipal labours will henceforth be conducted under the critical eyes of those who assemble here from far and near, and it will be your task to prove to your modern, and, I hope, peaceable invaders, that "the name of Delhi is not greater than Delhi herself."

I know well that in the Great War the citizens of Delhi played a generous part in assisting the Empire's resources, and that from this city and district many recruits came forward to swell the ranks of the Indian Army.

In more ways than one a strain was put upon your public spirit, for the need of concentrating every effort on the prosecution of the war retarded the scheme prepared for a rapid completion of the new capital. I understand that a full rate of progress is now re-established and I look forward with great interest to seeing what has been accomplished, for I need hardly tell you that His Majesty the King-Emperor takes the liveliest interest in every detail of the new Imperial city. When I narrate to His Majesty my impressions of my visit to Delhi, I shall at the same time convey to him the message of loyalty contained in your address.

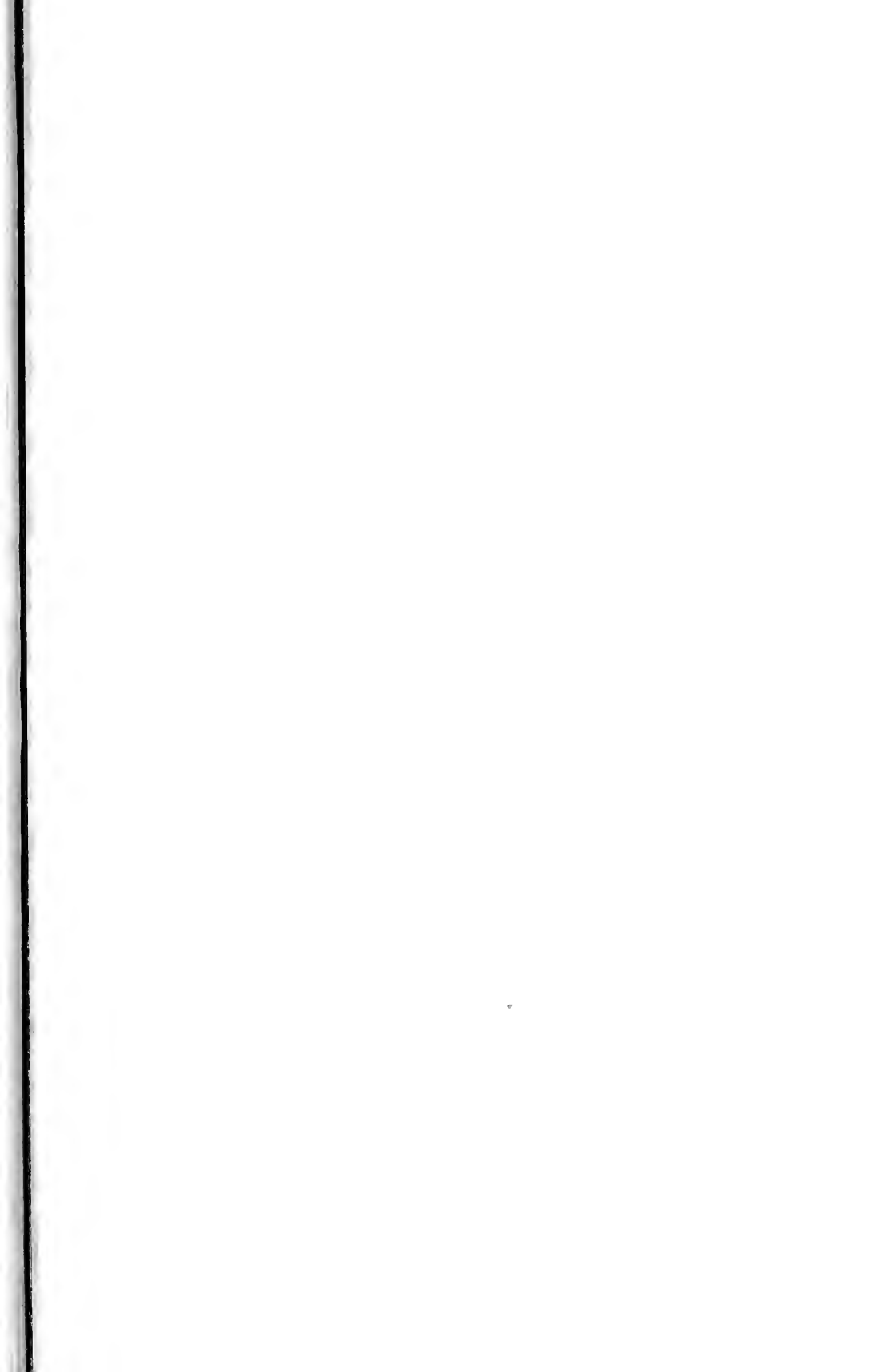
Gentlemen, in your welcome to me, you are kind enough to sound a personal note. As you are aware I know India well, and it has been a wonderful experience for me to re-visit this land, to study the great developments that have taken place, and to appreciate the wonderful advance of the people of India in all spheres of practical life, notably in the field of administration. Changes I find on all sides. But, let me

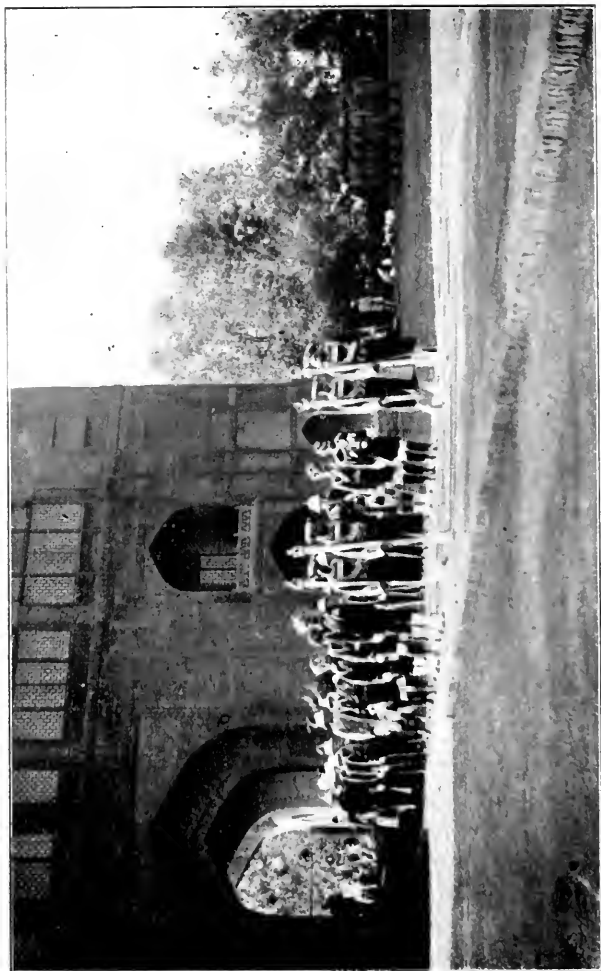


No. 4.—ARRIVAL OF RAJAS AND RANIS AT THE FORT. 1902



No. 5.—ARRIVAL OF PRINCES AT THE FORT.





No. 6.—INAUGURATION OF THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES. H. R. H.'s ARRIVAL AT THE FORT.

tell you, there is *one* respect in which I do *not* find India changed. I mean the kindly and instinctive courtesy which runs like a silver thread through all classes of Indian society, and has woven its customary charm into my impressions of the India of to-day. It is a precious inheritance, envied by many nations which can boast, perhaps more visible signs of modern progress, but lack the fine flower of ancient manners. Treasure it, for it will sweeten the public life of India in the strenuous days that lie ahead.

Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer. I cannot hope myself to see your city attain the maturity of her Imperial status, but I pray that upon Delhi every blessing may rest, and that the high hopes with which we frame our visions of her future may be fully and triumphantly realised.

His Royal Highness was accompanied by a full escort consisting of two squadrons of the 19th Lancers "D" Battery, R. H. A. and the 39th Central India Horse. As he passed the enclosure which had been erected outside Kingsway Station he was accorded a hearty cheer. The Duke of Connaught then drove in State to Viceregal Lodge.

On the 8th February at 3-30 in the afternoon His Royal Highness inaugurated the Chamber of Princes. It was a fine afternoon and the splendour of the decorations in the historic Diwan-i-am in the Fort was greatly heightened by the brilliant jewels and picturesque robes in which the Ruling Chiefs had assembled to witness the function. The route from the Viceregal Lodge to the Fort was all along lined with troops, and hundreds of spectators had gathered on the road-side to get a glimpse of the royal visitor. His Royal Highness and the Viceroy having robed themselves took their seats on the golden thrones. The proceedings commenced with the reading of the Royal proclamation by Sir John Wood, Political Secretary, which ran as follows :—

George the fifth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To my Viceroy and Governor-General and to the Princes and Rulers of the Indian States : Greeting.

In My Royal Proclamation of December 1919 I gave earnest of My affectionate care and regard for the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of the Indian States by signifying My assent to the establishment of a Chamber of Princes. During the year that has since passed My Viceroy and many of the Princes themselves have been engaged in framing for My approval

a constitution for the Chamber and the rules and regulations necessary to ensure the smooth and efficient performance of its important functions. This work is now complete ; and it remains for Me to take the final steps to bring the Chamber into being, in the confident hope that the united counsels of the Princes and Rulers, assembled in formal conclave, will be fruitful of lasting good both to themselves and their subjects, and by advancing the interests that are common to their territories and to British India, will benefit My Empire as a whole. It is in this hope that I have charged My revered and beloved Uncle, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, to perform on My behalf the ceremony of the inauguration of the Chamber of Princes.

It is My firm belief that a future full of great and beneficent activities lies before the Chamber thus established. To the Princes, long versed in the arts of government and statesmanship, it will open still wider fields of Imperial Service. It will afford them opportunities, of which, I am convinced, they will be prompt to avail themselves, of comparing experience, interchanging ideas, and framing mature and balanced conclusions on matters of common interest. Nor will less advantage accrue to my Viceroy and the officers serving under him, to whom the prudent counsels and considered advice of the Chamber cannot fail to be of the greatest assistance. The problems of the future must be faced in a spirit of co-operation and mutual trust. It is in this spirit that I summon the Princes of India to a larger share in my Councils. I do so in full reliance upon their devotion to My Throne and Person, proved as it has been both in long years of peace and in the terrible ordeal of the Great War, and in the confident anticipation that by this means the bonds of mutual understanding will be strengthened and the growing identity of interest between the Indian States and the rest of My Empire will be fostered and developed.

In My former Proclamation I repeated the assurance, given on many occasions by My Royal predecessors and Myself, of My determination ever to maintain unimpaired the privileges, rights and dignities of the Princes of India. The Princes may rest assured that this pledge remains inviolate and inviolable. I now authorise My Viceroy to publish the terms of the constitution of the new Chamber. My Viceroy will take its counsel freely in matters relating to the territories of the Indian States generally, and in matters that affect those territories jointly with British India, or with the rest of My Empire. It will have no concern with the internal affairs of individual States or their Rulers or with the relations of individual States to My

Government, while the existing rights of the States and their freedom of action will be in no way prejudiced or impaired. It is my earnest hope that the Princes of India will take a regular part in the deliberations of the Chamber ; but attendance will be a matter of choice, not of constraint. There will be no obligation, upon any member to record his opinion, by vote or otherwise, upon any question that may come under discussion ; and it is further My desire that, at the discretion of My Viceroy, an opportunity shall be given to any Prince who has not taken a part in the deliberations of the Chamber to record his views on any question that the Chamber has had under its consideration.

I pray that the blessing of Divine Providence may rest upon the labours of the Chamber ; that its deliberations may be inspired by true wisdom and moderation ; and that it may seek and find its best reward in promoting the general weal and in increasing the strength and unity of the mighty Empire over which I have been called upon to rule.

His Excellency the Viceroy in asking the Duke of Connaught to inaugurate the Chamber of Princes made the following speech :—

Speech by His Excellency the Viceroy on the occasion of the inauguration of the Chamber of Princes, Delhi, on 8th February 1921.

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS, YOUR HIGHNESSES,

In the Royal Proclamation of the 23rd December 1919, His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor announced his gracious intention to send his dear son, the Prince of Wales, to India to inaugurate on his behalf the new Chamber of Princes and the new Constitutions in British India. The arduous labours of the Prince in other parts of the Empire, however, necessitated the postponement of his visit to India and His Imperial Majesty has sent in his stead His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who will perform on His Imperial Majesty's behalf the ceremony of inauguration for which we are assembled here to-day.

I feel that I am voicing the sentiments of all present on this occasion when I say that, while we deeply regret the postponement of the Prince's visit and look forward with eager anticipation to his arrival among us next winter, we most cordially welcome the presence among us of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who is well known to the

Princes and peoples of India, and whose association with this ceremony is a token of the deep interest taken by the King-Emperor in the welfare of the Indian States.

Before calling upon His Royal Highness to perform the act of inauguration, it is fitting that I, as His Majesty's Viceroy, and as being responsible with the Secretary of State for the proposals in the Joint Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms, should say something of the genesis of the Chamber of Princes, its object and significance, the stages of its evolution, and the conditions essential to its success.

The germ of such an assemblage as this must be sought in the events of 1877, when Her late Majesty Queen Victoria assumed the title of "Empress of India" and was acclaimed as such by the great Princes present at the Imperial Assemblage and when Lord Lytton conceived the idea of associating with the High Officers of Government some of the leading Princes with the title of "Counsellors of the Empress." The idea was further developed by succeeding Viceroys: Lord Dufferin who instituted the Imperial Service Troops movement, Lord Curzon and Lord Minto, who propounded a scheme for a Council of Princes, and Lord Hardinge who consulted the Princes as "trusted colleagues" on various matters affecting their Order. Finally, it was my pleasant privilege on assuming charge of my office five years ago to institute a system of annual Conferences of Princes and Chiefs for the discussion, in concert with the officers of my Government, of questions affecting the States as a whole and of common import to them and to the Indian Empire. The success of these informal Conferences soon gave rise to the demand for a permanent institution of a more formal character and a proposal for the creation of such an institution was put forward in the Joint Report of April 1918, and laid before the Princes at the Conference of January 1919, together with certain other proposals in the Report, for their collective opinion. After an animated debate the Conference passed a Resolution warmly approving the establishment of a permanent Council of Princes with the title of *Narendra Mandal* (Chamber of Princes).

Resolutions were also passed at the same Conference approving the appointment of a mixed Committee of Princes and Officers of Government to examine the question of simplifying, standardising, and codifying Political Practice, and of a Standing Committee to advise the Viceroy and the Political Department on matters referred to it by the Viceroy regarding the affairs of Indian States. The proposals in the Report for Courts of Arbitration and Commissions of Enquiry and for

the establishment of direct relations between the Government of India and the important States—all measures designed with the object of securing uniformity of policy and practice and a method of dealing with difficult and important problems which would command the confidence of the Princes—were also generally approved.

The recommendations of the Conference were then placed before the Secretary of State, with whom various details were discussed, and in the next Conference held in November 1919 I was able to propound for Their Highnesses' consideration the general scheme for a Chamber of Princes approved by His Majesty's Government. The Conference, after debating the question, passed a Resolution warmly accepting the scheme and expressing the earnest hope that the Chamber might be brought into existence during the ensuing year.

With this end in view I enlisted the advice and criticism of the Codification Committee of Princes, which had been appointed by the Conference, and with their assistance the drafts of the Constitution of the Chamber, with the first Regulations and Rules of Business, and the draft resolutions concerning Courts of Arbitration and Commissions of Enquiry were moulded into practical shape: and I am glad to say that the drafts finally approved and published represent almost verbatim the general policy approved by the Conference on the advice of their Codification Committee.

There is one departure from the recommendations of the Conference which I fear will be a disappointment to some of Your Highnesses, and that is the adoption of a purely English title for the Chamber. As you are aware, I suspended judgment on the proposed title of *Narendra Mandal* pending further enquiry as to the general feeling of the Princes on the subject. That enquiry disclosed a general consensus of opinion among the Mahomedan Rulers against a Hindu title and in favour of a purely English designation. This preference was also expressed by some Hindu and Sikh Rulers, and it was accordingly decided, after reference to the Secretary of State, to use for the present the English title of "Chamber of Princes" as the sole designation. The question of adopting an Indian title has, however, been included in the agenda for the first meetings of the Chamber and it will be open to Your Highnesses to propose an Indian title or titles which will meet with general acceptance.

Another point on which the published constitution differs from the wording favoured by the Committee of Princes, who were consulted on the subject, is the absolute prohibition of the discussion in the Chamber

of the internal affairs of individual States and the actions of individual Rulers. The Princes on the Committee were in favour of allowing such discussion, "provided that the Ruler concerned so desires and the Viceroy consents." His Majesty's Government accepted the view of the Government of India that such a provision might prove embarrassing to the Viceroy, and that the practice, if recognised, would be subversive of the principle on which the Constitution of the Chamber is based. It was decided, therefore, that the rule against the discussion of such matters in the Chamber should be absolute and unqualified.

I think that Your Highnesses on reflection will agree that this decision is reasonable and just. The main function of the Chamber is to discuss matters affecting the States generally or of common concern to the States and to British India or the Empire at large. It would, in our opinion, be fatal to the popularity and success of the Chamber if any countenance were given to the idea that it might be used for the discussion of private affairs of individual States and Rulers. States which desire that the Viceroy may be in possession of independent and expert advice before deciding matters in dispute either between individual States or between an individual State and Government can have recourse to Courts of Arbitration, where these matters can be examined in the privacy essential to such cases. Commissions of Enquiry provide a similar machinery for dealing with the affairs of individual Rulers.

As regards the question of direct relations between the Government of India and the important States, I may inform you that a recommendation has been made to the Secretary of State for the transfer of the more important States in the Bombay Presidency, according to a scheme prepared by a Special Committee, to be carried into effect at some future date, when the conditions appear to be favourable. A scheme will also shortly be placed before His Majesty's Government for the bringing of the important States of the Punjab into direct relations with the Government of India as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. The Gwalior State will soon be brought into direct touch with the Central Government through a Resident who will be independent of the Central India Agency, and some of the Rajputana States, which were formerly in relations with a local Resident, are now in direct relations with the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana. Other aspects of the question of direct relations are engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Reverting to the question of the Chamber of Princes, Your Highnesses will have received the proposals made by the Committee for the represen-

tation of lesser States, whose Rulers are not eligible for admission to the Chamber of Princes in their own right. These proposals, which it is hoped to embody in the Regulations before the next session of the Chamber, will be submitted for Your Highnesses' consideration after the inaugural meeting.

I do not propose to describe the details of the Constitution, Regulations and Rules to-day since these documents have been for some time in Your Highnesses' hands, and they represent, in the main, the fruit of your own deliberations, but there are one or two aspects of the scheme on which it is right that I should dwell on this historic occasion. The Chamber of Princes is an advisory and consultative body and has no executive powers. It represents a recognition of the right of the Princes to be consulted in framing the policy of Government relating to the States and to have a voice in the Councils of the Empire ; but the resolutions of the Chamber, though carried by a majority of votes, will be in the nature of advice and will not necessarily be acted on by the Viceroy, who will be bound to take into consideration not only the merits of the particular resolution, but also the views of the opposing minority as well as the opinions of those Princes who happen to be absent from the Chamber. I think it well to call attention to these points because I have heard it said by critics of the Chamber that it will tend to belittle the position and prejudice the rights of the greater States, who may be outvoted by a combination of States of lesser importance. The criticism is, I think, unjustified by the terms of the constitution and loses sight of the safeguards which I have mentioned.

The Constitution of the Chamber has received the approval of His Majesty's Government and has been promulgated by Royal Proclamation ; it will be inaugurated to-day by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, on behalf of His Imperial Majesty ; it behoves us all to do our utmost to make the scheme a real success, a source of strength to the Empire, an engine of progress and a means of promoting unity and co-operation between the representatives of His Majesty's Government in this country and the Princes and Chiefs of this great Empire.

I do not think that the Chamber is likely to fail in achieving the objects which I have mentioned. Indeed, I am confident that, with good-will on both sides, it will succeed. But there are certain matters to which I feel it my duty to call Your Highnesses' attention.

First, there is the danger that, after the first excitement attending the opening of the Chamber has passed away, interest in its proceedings may evaporate and the attendance of members may dwindle. I look

to Your Highnesses to prevent this process. Attendance at the meetings will always be voluntary and no pressure will be applied to those who prefer to stay away. But I trust that, as time goes on, Your Highnesses will realise more and more the importance of maintaining these assemblages as meetings of a truly representative character, and that even those who now stand aloof will in time forego those scruples and lend their influence towards promoting the objects of the Chamber and so strengthening the bonds which bind us together for the common good.

Secondly, there is the possibility which some critics have noted—I only mention it to dismiss it—that the machinery of this Chamber might be used solely for the protection of the rights and privileges of the Princes without due regard to the obligations which they owe both to the Empire of which they are a part and to their subjects whose happiness and welfare are dependent upon the wisdom and justice of their Rulers. I do not share these apprehensions; for here again I confidently look to Your Highnesses to uphold the credit of this institution by adopting both towards the Government and its officers a spirit of co-operation without which our deliberations will be of small avail. We are all members one of another and in our union lies our strength. We share between us the responsibility for the good government of India and for protecting the interests and promoting the happiness of the millions committed to our charge. In the exercise of that responsibility we shall, I am sure, continue to work together in harmony and with mutual respect, inspired by the great ideal of an India governing itself through its Princes and elected representatives and owning allegiance to a common Head.

I now invite His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to inaugurate on behalf of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor the Chamber of Princes and to declare it to be duly constituted.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught delivered the following address in reply :—

Speech of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at the inauguration of the Chamber of Princes.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, YOUR HIGHNESSES,

It is by the command of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor that I meet you to-day. My duty is twofold : to convey to Your High-

nesses the personal greetings of His Majesty ; and on His behalf to inaugurate the Chamber of Princes. In His Royal Proclamation the King-Emperor has signified His approval of this new institution, and His hopes for its future. Its origin and meaning have just been explained by the Viceroy. I have only one word to add to what His Excellency has said on this subject. An Assembly so unique and so essentially Indian in character should surely not be known only by an English designation. I trust that among the earliest tasks to which Your Highnesses will address yourselves in the Chamber will be that of choosing an appropriate vernacular title which you can unite in recommending to His Majesty the King.

Your Highnesses, of the many ceremonies that it has fallen to my lot to perform, none has given me more pleasure than the inauguration of the Chamber of Princes. Among the Princes here assembled are many with whom I can claim personal friendship of long standing. I rejoice at the opportunity of renewing their acquaintance and of reviving old bonds of fellowship and regard. No pleasure is so keen as that which we share with old friends. I have the happiness of knowing that my own pleasure in to-day's proceedings finds a counterpart in Your Highnesses' own feelings ; and that the function in which it is my privilege to join will stand for all time as a shining landmark in the annals of the Indian States.

We are assembled to-day in the ancient capital of India. This noble hall in which we meet, where the Mughal Emperor surrounded by the splendour of his magnificent Court used to hear the petitions of his people, has been the scene of many imposing ceremonies. It is a fitting stage for the ceremony of to-day. But I stand here at the bidding of an Emperor mightier even than the Mughal ; an Emperor, whose policy is framed with a breadth of vision unknown to the rulers of past ages ; whose acts are inspired, as he himself has declared, by the spirit of trust and sympathy ; whose desire it is that every breath of suspicion or misunderstanding should be dissipated ; and who now invites Your Highnesses, in the fullness of his confidence, to take a larger share in the political development of your Motherland.

The Princes of India have shown for many years past, and more particularly during the Great War, their devotion to the Crown and their readiness to make any sacrifice for the safety and welfare of the Empire. When most was needed, most was given. His Imperial Majesty has watched with feelings of deep pride and gratitude the part

taken by Your Highnesses in the war, the devotion of those who gave personal service in the field, the patriotic zeal of those who sent their troops to the front and furnished recruits for the Indian Army, the lavish generosity of those who helped with money and material. For all these services His Majesty has asked me to convey to Your Highnesses on His behalf a special message of thanks. Loyalty is a tradition with the Indian States. His Majesty knows well that, in good times or evil, he can always count upon the fidelity and unswerving support of the Indian Princes. But with the memories of the past six years ever present in his mind he cannot forbear, on this great occasion, from making public acknowledgment of your splendid record of achievement during the greatest struggle in the history of mankind. The help that you gave at the outbreak of the war, when the tale of your deeds and offerings sent a thrill of emotion throughout the British Empire, and your strenuous efforts in the dark days of 1918, when the fate of civilisation seemed to hang in the balance, can only be forgotten with the Empire itself.

I am confident that the same spirit of loyalty and co-operation that Your Highnesses displayed during the war will continue to animate you in the years to come. It is in this spirit, as His Majesty has said, that the problems of the future must be faced. It is in this spirit, I do not doubt, that you will approach the questions that will form the subject of your deliberations in the Chamber. Some of the problems that will arise may make demands on your patience and public spirit. Some may depend for their solution upon a fair interpretation of the letter of treaties and engagements between the States and the British Government. If so, I feel sure that a way will be found to reconcile any doubts or differences that may present themselves. The sanctity of the treaties is a cardinal article of Imperial policy. It was affirmed by my beloved mother, the Great Queen Victoria, in her famous Proclamation of 1858. It was reaffirmed by King Edward the Seventh; and His present Majesty, King George the Fifth, has once more announced in his Proclamation his "determination ever to maintain unimpaired the privileges, rights and dignities of the Princes." Nothing is wanting to mark the solemnity of this time-honoured engagement; and no words of mine are needed to reassure Your Highnesses that the British Government will stand faithfully by its promises. I would only ask you, when you come to discuss any difficult question of practice in your relations with the Government of India or of the interpretation of your treaties, to remember that these pledges will be ever present

to the minds of the officers of the British Crown. A generous spirit on your part will find its response in equal generosity on the part of the Government of India. You may rest assured that the Government and its officers will recognise freely the internal sovereignty to which your various treaties and engagements entitle you. We look to the Princes of India, on their part, to continue to administer their States with justice and enlightenment. I am confident that we shall not look in vain.

Your Highnesses, it is a sincere pleasure to me to congratulate you on the place that, as a body, you have achieved for yourselves in recent years in the wider Councils of the Empire. You have been represented in the Imperial War Cabinet and at the Imperial Conference. One of your number took part in the Peace Conference of 1919, and his signature is appended to the Treaty of Versailles. More recently another of your order attended the League of Nations Assembly at Geneva. Your Highnesses, I have witnessed many changes in my life-time. Much of the old order, as I know it in my youth, has passed away for ever. For all classes the past 50 years have been an era of change, and the Princes of the great Indian States furnish no exception to the general rule. Their conditions of life have been profoundly modified. They have emerged from the seclusion that so long hedged them round and they aspire, and rightly aspire, to play a part in the wider theatre of modern life. I am sure that the part will be a worthy one. The British Government has not been slow to recognise the justice of your aspirations; and I rejoice to think that by my share in to-day's ceremony, I am doing something to promote your wishes and to provide a larger sphere for your public-spirited activities. Increased opportunities, as I need not remind Your Highnesses, bring in their train increased responsibility. I know well that Your Highnesses will appreciate the trust reposed in you by His Imperial Majesty and His Government and will worthily respond, both as pillars of the Empire, and as rulers striving ever for the greater happiness and prosperity of your own subjects.

I now, on behalf of the King-Emperor, declare the Chamber of Princes to be duly constituted and pray that, under Divine Providence, its proceedings may be so guided and directed as to strengthen the bonds of union between the Princes and the Empire and to promote the well-being of this great land of India and enhance her good name among the nations of the world.

His Highness the Maharajah of Gwalior moved a Resolution of thanks in the following terms :—

On behalf of the Princes of India assembled on this memorable occasion, I beg to move the following resolution :—

“ This representative gathering of the Princes resolves to convey to His Imperial Majesty, the King-Emperor of India, their respectful greetings, the assurance of their abiding loyalty to his throne, so deeply rooted in their affections, and of their steadiest devotion to his august person ; also to voice their genuine gratification at the inauguration, by Royal Proclamation, of the Chamber of Princes. Next they resolve to affirm that their feelings of intense satisfaction are only equalled by their consciousness of the honour done them in the deputation of Field-Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to inaugurate this Chamber, a deputation which vividly recalls the blessed memory of Queen Victoria the Good, whose Proclamation of 1858 is the crystallised expression of Her Royal heart’s great love for India. This inauguration by His Royal Highness is all the more gratifying owing to his earlier association with this country, and his possession as a member of the Imperial House of Windsor, of an innate capacity to appreciate the hereditary rulers’ point of view. Further they resolve to place on record their profound appreciation of the genuine goodwill, consummate statesmanship, and deep insight which prompted His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Chelmsford, the gifted Prime Minister, the Right Hon’ble David Lloyd George, that fearless and true friend of India, His Imperial Majesty’s Secretary of State, the Right Hon’ble Edwin Montagu, and the eminent statesmen who form His Imperial Majesty’s Government, to bring to a happy issue, the scheme of the Chamber of Princes.”

“ I deem it a great privilege that it has fallen to my lot to move the resolution which I have just read. It is quite unnecessary for me in moving it to dilate upon the event to which it refers, or the happy circumstances which have attended its occurrences, for indeed the terms of the resolution, drawn up by our common consent, amply testify to the feelings occasioned by the formation of the Princes’ Chamber. We cannot but admire the devotion to duty which inspired your Royal Highness’ willing compliance with the command of our beloved Emperor to visit India and perform this ceremony, regardless of considerations of distance, and, may we add, of age. For this ready response to the occasion, I am sure, we are very grateful to Your Royal Highness ; and we flatter ourselves by thinking that you have found the perfor-

mance of to-day's ceremony agreeable, and in accord with Your Royal predilections."

"Respecting Your Excellency, may I venture to state that your name will always be associated in history with one of the most critical stages in the evolution of India. Your Viceroyalty has witnessed remarkable happenings. Indeed we are witnesses to the re-birth of the world, accepted notions and proved theories seem all to be undergoing forced revision. May it please merciful Providence that the new order which is supplanting the old, may bring a cycle of peace and goodwill to humanity. The world conditions have been, as was inevitable, more or less reflected in India, so that Your Excellency has had to face problems calculated to strain nerves of steel and tax the most resourceful mind. During that period of stress and anxiety, Your Excellency was at pains to do unflinchingly, what duty appeared to dictate inexorably. What man can do better than be true to himself, that is to his conception of duty to the King of Kings? It is in the spirit of that conception which Your Excellency doubtless endeavoured to serve this country. Finally, the much desired Chamber has been brought into being, and it only remains for me to pray fervently that its sessions may help to produce a better mutual understanding, and promote hearty and effective co-operation between the British Government and the Princes of India."

In seconding the Resolution the Maharajah of Bikaner made the following speech:—

"I deem it an honour on this historic occasion to have been commissioned by my brother Princes to second the resolution just moved by my esteemed friend, His Highness the Maharaja Scindia. The unflinching loyalty, and devoted attachment with which the Princes of India are inspired towards the Throne and Person of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, has stood the test of the time through every period of stress and storm during a hundred years and more. The Imperial Crown is the one centripetal force in the Empire which attracts and welds together all its component parts, an undisputed fact which accounts for the remarkable unity and cohesion during the dark days of the war, of the different countries forming the British Commonwealth of Nations, and to no one does the Imperial Crown appeal as a greater binding and inspiring force than to us, the Princes of India. The gracious interest which His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, together with Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress, has at all times been pleased to evince in the Princes and States of India is ever

to be remembered. The appeal for greater sympathy for India and the Indians, and the watch-word of hope which he gave to us all in 1912, have been sources of the liveliest gratification to us, and have helped to stimulate and sustain us in all periods of difficulty and anxiety, whilst the solicitude displayed in our behalf by the establishment of the Chamber of Princes, and the reiteration in the Royal Proclamation of the gracious assurances regarding the inviolability of previous Imperial pledges safeguarding our privileges, rights and dignities, will find a most loyal and grateful echo in the Indian States throughout the length and breadth of this country. It is our devout prayer that His Imperial Majesty may long be spared to guide the destinies of India and other parts of the Empire to further happiness and prosperity, and to afford to all concerned an inspiring example of the same devotion to duty and regard for the common good which has so largely contributed to knit the Empire into still closer bonds of loyal and patriotic unity."

"We not only deem it a high honour, but we regard it as a matter of happy omen that the ceremony of inaugurating the Chamber of Princes to-day should have been entrusted by His Imperial Majesty to such an illustrious and popular member of the Imperial House of Windsor as Your Royal Highness whose name is held in the highest affection and esteem by the Princes and people of India. I feel that I am voicing the sentiments of my brother Princes when I give expression to our great disappointment that the other calls upon your Royal Highness' time have not left you sufficient leisure to honour any of our States by a visit on this occasion, but we look forward with eager anticipation to welcoming His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to several of our States next cold weather, by when we sincerely hope that His Royal Highness will have been restored to his usual health and vigour after his recent arduous exertions in the course of his triumphant Imperial Mission. I beg also to associate myself with His Highness the Maharaja Scindia in expressing our gratitude to Your Excellency, to Mr. Montagu, and to the Prime Minister and His Imperial Majesty's Government."

"The solidarity and identity of interests between the British Government and the Princes, are indeed very real, and I would in conclusion give expression to our profound conviction that the Chamber of Princes will not only prove of great benefit to us, but that it will also prove to be a true Imperial asset. We rejoice to feel that we shall have in Your Excellency's successor a sagacious statesman like Lord Reading, who, we earnestly trust, will develop still further the sympathetic policy

of the British Government towards the Princes and States, whereby we may be enabled to take an ever-increasing share in upholding the honour and glory of our beloved Emperor and of His mighty Empire."

The Resolution was supported by the Maharajah of Patiala in the following speech :—

"To-day is a red-letter day in the history of the Indian States, for to-day we are witnessing the fulfilment of the hopes which we have been cherishing for the creation of a Chamber that has just now been brought into existence by the Royal Proclamation of His Imperial Majesty. It is unnecessary for me to dwell at length upon the manifold benefits which this Chamber will place within reach of the rulers of the Indian States, but the two aspects that appeal to me most are the feeling of solidarity that will grow among us, and the enhanced opportunities of co-operation between the British Government and ourselves. Time and again men who can speak with the highest authority have said that the Indian States are pillars and bulwarks of the British Empire, and I hope we may venture to claim what experience has proved conclusively that whenever there has been an opportunity to test the link subsisting between us and the Crown of England, it has proved stronger than before."

"The creation of our Chamber will, I feel confident, make this connection more enduring than ever. We are passing through momentous times, and in all parts of the world men and Governments are facing new facts and new problems. The Great British Empire, of which we are proud to be an integral part, has its own problems, the solution of which will require all the wisdom and all the courage it can command. The Princes of India realise fully that as rulers of men, they cannot remain unaffected by what may well be called world movements, and they must be prepared to tackle the new situation with the principal object of making their present interests identical with those of their people. From this point of view, the educative value of this Chamber will be great, and let us hope that its future history will show many a bright page of solid selfless work done in the interests of our order and of the people whom Providence has entrusted to our care."

"It is my pleasant duty on this occasion to give expression to our fervent feelings of gratitude to the King-Emperor who has by establishing this Chamber made stronger than ever the link that unites us to his august Throne. We shall be extremely thankful if Your Royal Highness will convey to His Majesty our deep sense of ever-abiding loyalty and affection, and assure him that he will always find us ready

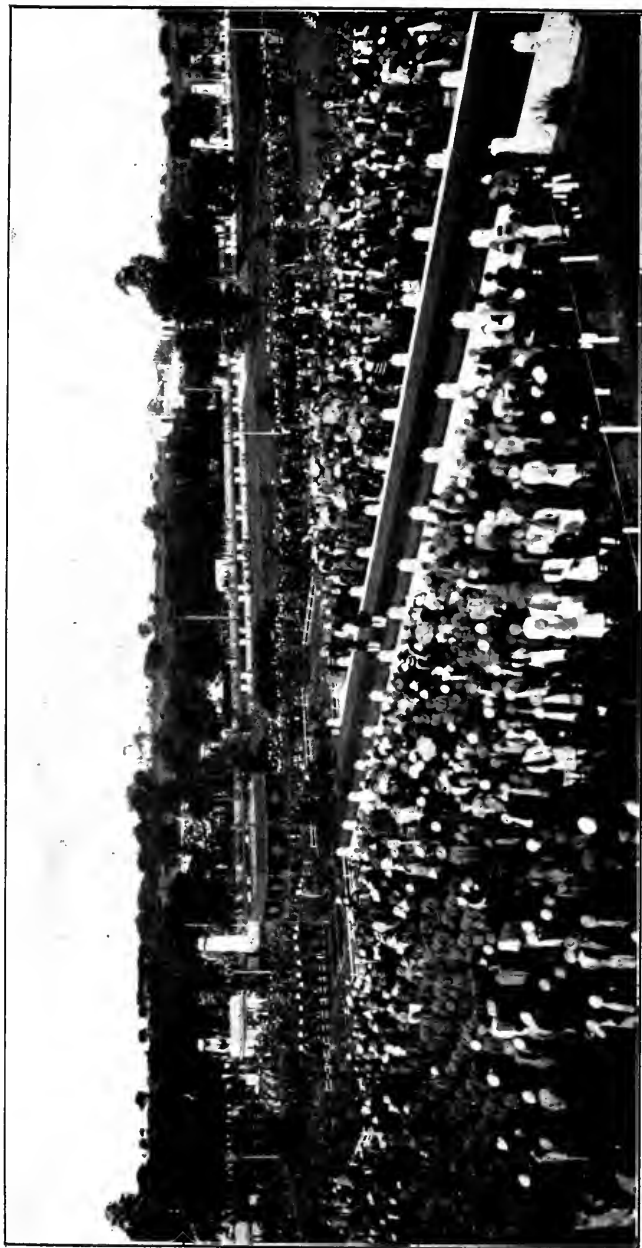
to make every sacrifice which occasion may demand. Our grateful thanks are also due to Your Royal Highness for so nobly undertaking the duty of bringing to us the great message of hope and good will from His Majesty, and we are sure that whatever personal inconvenience Your Royal Highness may have experienced will be more than compensated by the general satisfaction occasioned by this great event."

"Last, but not least, we are grateful to Your Excellency for the sympathy with which, from the very beginning, you have considered the proposal of creating this Chamber, and for giving our various proposals your kind support."

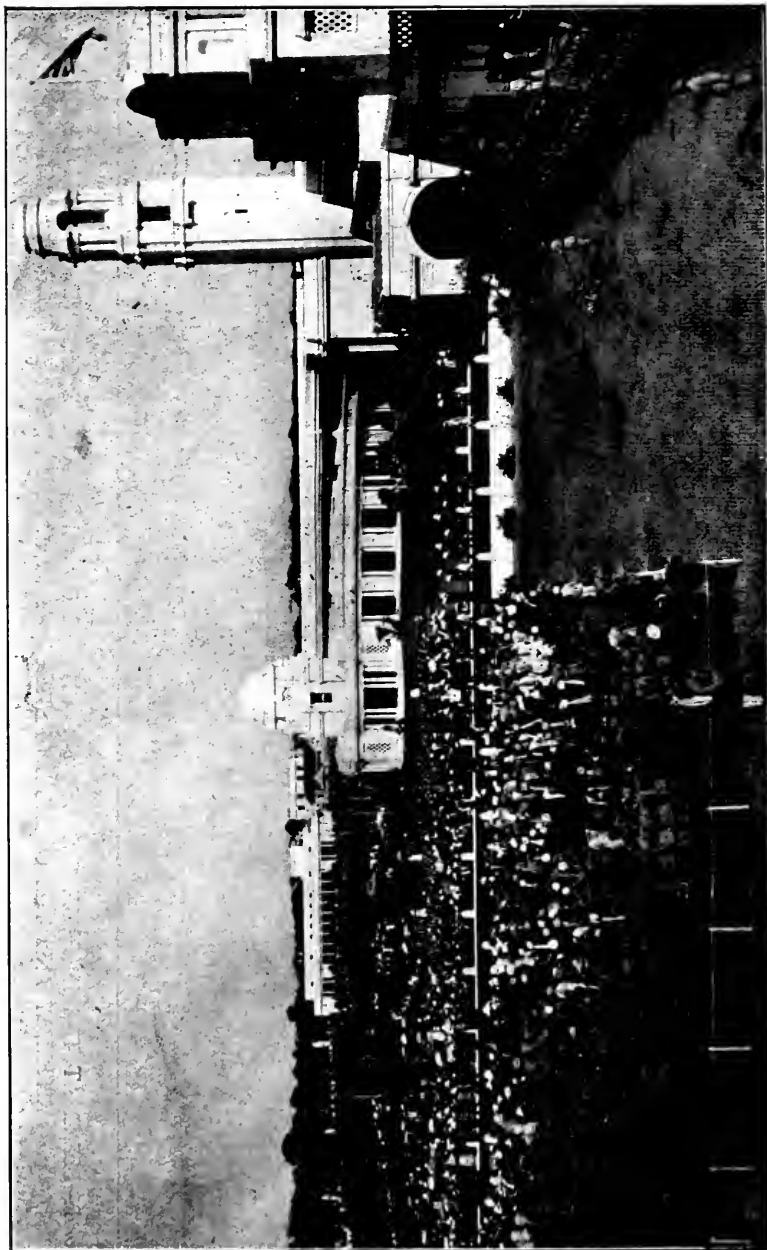
The Maharajah of Alwar in further supporting the Resolution observed as follows :—

"With over-flowing hearts we bid you welcome, not once but thrice, for you come as no stranger to our sacred land, you come to blossom our hopes and aspirations. But above all this we welcome you, Sire, because you come as the Royal Messenger of peace and good will. After nearly 30 years, when you again first set foot on India's shore you transmitted through your electric words, a glow of warmth and inspiration which it did one good to feel. Your Excellency, Your Royal Highness, for a long time the world was becoming impatient for a change. The channels and avenues of growth seemed clogged and choked, clouds of discontent gathered and then came the thunder clap of war which shook many an edifice and shattered several structures. The world seems determined not to settle down into the grooves which suffocated it before. It is still groping to discover new avenues for healthy growth and advance. India is no exception to the rule. At such a juncture Your Highness comes and brings once again from many thousands of miles away, the refreshing shower of royal good will. May it clear the air is our fervent hope, so that the seeds you sow may enable our country to produce in future the rich harvest of life. A year or less hence the royal heir to England's throne will grace our land. He has already succeeded to a remarkable degree in rousing the imagination and firing the hopes of the other portions of the British Empire which His Royal Highness visited recently, but, we feel sure, nowhere will he find a greater or warmer response to his clarion call of right understanding and mutual good will than in our motherland, which, with all its faults, knows—as no others know—how to respond to high and noble sentiments."

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and the Viceroy left the fort amidst a flourish of trumpets and a royal salute. Thus ended



No. 7.--SCENE AT THE IMPERIAL SECRETARIAT ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND THE COUNCIL OF STATE BY H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.



No. 8.—A VIEW OF THE DELHI SECRETARIAT. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT RETURNING IN PROCESSION AFTER
THE INAUGURATION OF THE LEGISLATURES.

a ceremony which was easily the most brilliant during the Duke's visit to Delhi and witnessed the creation of a fresh landmark in the history of British connection with Indian States.

On the 9th February His Royal Highness opened the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly with an inspiring message from the King-Emperor and a touching personal appeal from himself. Outside the new Council Chamber an enclosure had been made where a large number of people had collected to witness the arrival of the Duke to give his blessings to the constitutional experiment of the greatest importance that is to be tried in India under British rule. The whole of the Council Chamber was fully occupied, nearly all the Members of the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly being present to receive the royal benedictions on the commencement of their labours. His Excellency the Viceroy in inviting the Duke to declare the Houses open spoke as follows :—

Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General at the inauguration of the Council of State and Legislative Assembly.

HON'BLE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

I have required your attendance here under Section 63 of the Government of India Act for an important ceremony.

The new Indian Legislature, which is to be opened to-day, is the outcome of the policy announced by His Majesty's Government in August 1917. That announcement has been described as the most momentous utterance in the chequered history of India ; and I believe that it merits that description. But history, as we have learnt to know, is a continuous process. In human affairs, as in nature, there are no absolute beginnings ; and, however great the changes that may be compressed into a few crowded years, they are to the eye of the historian the inevitable consequences of other changes, sometimes but little noticed or understood at the time, which have preceded them. Nowhere is this clearer than in the record of British rule in India. The Act of 1919 involved a great and memorable departure from the old system of Government. It closed one era and opened another. None the less its most innovating provisions had their germ in measures reaching well back into the last century, and the purpose and spirit

which underlay them are those that have throughout guided and inspired the policy of the British in India.

There are those who will dispute this interpretation of the character of British policy. In their eyes the real object of the British Government has always been the retention of all genuine power in its own hands, and every step in the liberalisation of the structure of Government has been a concession, tardily and grudgingly yielded, to demands which the Government deemed it impolitic wholly to refuse. I am confident that history will not endorse this charge. The historian of the future will detect in his survey of the achievements of the British in India many an error and shortcoming. But he will also recognise that throughout the years of their rule one increasing purpose has run and he will do justice to the unprecedented character and the colossal magnitude of the task which they set themselves. For no such task was ever attempted by the empires of the past. In these empires either free institutions had never existed or, as in the case of Rome, the growth of empire had proved fatal to such liberties as had previously been enjoyed by the founders of the empire. There were differences doubtless in the forms of local administration and in the personal privileges of the members of the various peoples and races of the State, but such variations in no wise affected the autocratic character of the Central Government. But the destinies of India and Britain became linked together at a time when in the latter country self-government had become firmly established, and it has since been the constant aim of the British Government to extend to India the benefits and privileges of her own institutions. Were any specific evidence needed of the truth of this proposition, I would appeal to the historic minute of Lord Macaulay upon the question of the medium of instruction in India. His argument that England could not impart the ideas of the western world otherwise than in her own language carried with it tremendous consequences. It was familiarity with the literature and thought of English historians and teachers that did more than any other single cause to mould the minds of educated India in a way that inevitably led to a demand for political development that should imitate the model held out to her; for as one of our own poets has said—

“ We must be free who speak
The language Shakespeare spake.”

The difficulties which confronted her in such a task were indeed formidable. The vast area of the country, the number and diversity

of its population and the habits and ideas engendered by many centuries of despotic rule were obstacles that might well have seemed insuperable even to the boldest imagination. In dealing with them the methods followed by British statesmen have been those with which the political development of England herself had made them familiar. English self-government was not the fruit of any sudden revolution or catastrophic change, but has been built up gradually, and through centuries of sustained effort. The evolution of British policy in India has pursued a similar course. The British Government has not attempted any dazzling and brilliant, but inevitably unstable, reconstructions. It has been content to advance step by step, to adjust its institutions from time to time to the degree of progress obtained by the people and to build up the edifice of constitutional government on the foundations laid by preceding generations; so that of India under British rule it might be truly said, as has been said of England herself, that she has been a land "where freedom slowly broadens down, from precedent to precedent."

The history of constitutional developments in India under British rule falls into certain fairly well-defined stages. The first of these may be said to have terminated with the Act of 1861. During this period the British Government were engaged in extending and solidifying their dominions, in evolving order out of the chaos that had supervened on the break-up of the Moghal Empire, and in introducing a number of great organic reforms such as the improvement of the police and the prisons, the codification of the criminal law, and the establishment of a hierarchy of courts of justice and of a trained civil service. The main achievement of administration was in fact the construction and consolidation of the mechanical framework of the Government. The three separate presidencies were brought under a common system; British rule was extended over much of the intervening spaces; and the legislative and administrative authority of the Governor-General in Council was asserted over all the provinces and extended to all the inhabitants; while at the same time provision was made for local needs and local knowledge by the creation or recreation of local councils. And it is significant that in the Act which closed this chapter the principle of associating the people of India with the Government of the country was definitely recognised. The Councils set up by this Act were still merely legislative committees of the Government, but the right of the public to be heard and the duty of the executive to defend its measures were acknowledged and Indians were given a share in the work of legislation.

The second stage terminated with the Act of 1892. The intervening period had witnessed substantial and many-sided progress. Universities had been established; secondary education had made great strides; and municipal and district boards had been created in the major provinces. A limited but important section of Indian opinion demanded further advance, and the justice of this demand was recognised by the British Government in the Act of 1892. This Act conferred on the Councils the right of asking questions and of discussing the budget; and to this extent admitted that their functions were to be more than purely legislative or advisory. But its most notable innovation was the adoption of the elective principle. It is true that technically all the non-official members continued to be nominated, but inasmuch as the recommendations of the nominating bodies came to be accepted as a matter of course, the fact of election to an appreciable proportion of the non-official seats was firmly established. The Act of 1861 had recognised the need for including an Indian element in the Legislative Councils. The Act of 1892 went further. It recognised in principle the right of the Indian people to choose its own representatives on the Councils.

The third stage will always be associated with the names of Lord Morley and Lord Minto. The experience of the reforms of 1892 had been on the whole favourable. The association of the leaders of the non-official public in the management of public affairs had afforded an outlet for natural and legitimate aspirations and some degree of education in the art of government. But the impulses which had led to the reforms of 1892 continued to operate and they were reinforced by external events such as the Russo-Japanese war. Important classes were learning to realise their own position, to estimate for themselves their own capacities and to compare their claims for equality of citizenship with those of the British race. India was in fact developing a national self-consciousness. The Morley-Minto reforms were a courageous and sincere effort to adjust the structure of the Government to these changes. The Legislative Councils were greatly enlarged, the official majority was abandoned in the local councils; and the principle of election was legally admitted. No less significant were the alterations made in the functions of the Councils. These were now empowered to discuss the budget at length; to propose resolutions on it and to divide upon them; and not only on the budget but in all matters of public importance, resolutions might be moved and divisions taken. It was hoped by the authors that around this constitution conservative

sentiment would crystalise, and that for many years no further shifting of the balance of power would be necessary. These anticipations have not been fulfilled ; and from the vantage point of our later experience we can now see that this was inevitable. The equilibrium temporarily established was of a kind that could not for long be maintained. The forces which had led to the introduction of these reforms continued to gain in intensity and volume ; the demand of educated Indians for a larger share in the Government of their country grew year by year more insistent ; and this demand could find no adequate satisfaction within the framework of the Morley-Minto constitution. This constitution gave Indians much wider opportunities for the expression of their views, and greatly increased their power of influencing the policy of Government, and its administration of public business. But the element of responsibility was entirely lacking. The ultimate decision rested in all cases with the Government and the Councils were left with no functions save that of criticism. The principle of autocracy, though much qualified, was still maintained, and the attempt to blend it with the constitutionalism of the West could but postpone for a short period the need for reconstruction on more radical lines.

Such then was the position with which my Government were confronted in the years 1916-17. The conclusion at which we arrived was that British policy must seek a new point of departure, a fresh orientation. On the lines of the Morley-Minto Reforms there could be no further advance. That particular line of development had been carried to the furthest limit of which it admitted, and the only further change of which the system was susceptible would have made the legislative and administrative acts of an irremovable executive entirely amenable to elected councils, and would have resulted in a disastrous deadlock. The executive would have remained responsible for the Government of the country but would have lacked the power to secure the measures necessary for the discharge of that responsibility. The solution which finally commended itself to us is embodied in principle in the declaration which His Majesty's Government, in full agreement with us, made in August 1917. By that declaration the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government was declared to be the goal towards which the policy of His Majesty's Government was to be directed. The increasing association of the people of India with the work of government had always been the aim of the British Government. In that sense a continuous thread of connection links together the Act

of 1861 and the declaration of August 1917. In the last analysis the latter is only the most recent and most memorable manifestation of a tendency that has been operative throughout British rule. But there are changes of degree so great as to be changes of kind, and this is one of them. For the first time the principle of autocracy which had not been wholly discarded in all earlier reforms was definitely abandoned; the conception of the British Government as a benevolent despotism was finally renounced; and in its place was substituted that of a guiding authority whose rôle it would be to assist the steps of India along the road that in the fullness of time would lead to complete self-government within the Empire. In the interval required for the accomplishment of this task certain powers of supervision, and if need be of intervention, would be retained and substantial steps towards redeeming the pledges of the Government were to be taken at the earliest moment possible.

I shall not attempt to recount in detail the processes by which subsequently the new policy was given definite form and expression in the Act of 1919. They are set out in documents all of which have been published.

In May 1916 I took up first the question of constitutional reform. Throughout that year and the first half of 1917 I pressed upon His Majesty's Government the necessity for a declaration of policy outlining the objective of British rule in India and the steps to be taken in the direction of that objective, feeling sure that such a declaration could only emanate satisfactorily from the highest authority of the Empire. In August 1917 that declaration was made, and in November the Secretary of State on my invitation came to India to take up the task of recommending with myself to His Majesty's Government the steps to be taken in fulfilment of the declaration. Without that visit I make bold to say the Government of India might still be exchanging despatches with His Majesty's Government on this subject. No two men could have worked together on such a task with greater harmony and good-will. Differences there may have been, but where and when have there not been differences in such a work?

Our proposals and the reasons for them are set out in the Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms. They have been widely and in some quarters severely criticised and in some respects they have been modified by Parliament, but the cardinal feature of our scheme, now generally known as the system of dyarchy, is the basis of the Act of 1919. It will be for future generations to pass the final judgment on our scheme, and I shall not endeavour to anticipate the verdict. But

certain claims I do advance. The scheme does represent an honest effort to give effect in the fullest and most complete form possible to the declaration of August 1917. Neither here nor in England has there been any attempt to whittle down or nullify the pledges then given. Nor can the charge of failing to consult Indian opinion be laid at our doors. At every stage we have courted publicity. The proposals in the Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms were communicated to the public at the earliest moment possible; the criticisms which they elicited were transmitted to the Secretary of State in published despatches, and every opportunity was given to all parties to lay their views before the Joint Committee. And every criticism, every suggestion, every alternative plan was fully weighed and explored. We left nothing undone that in our judgment might conduce to the successful solution of the great work which we had undertaken. According to our lights we have striven to make the gift which we had to bestow worthy of Britain and worthy of India. And now His Majesty the King-Emperor who has given so many proofs of his concern for the welfare of India, has been pleased to set the seal on our labours of the last four years by deputing His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to open on His behalf the new Indian Legislature. His Royal Highness is no stranger to India. Some five years of his life were passed in this country; he has himself been a member of the Indian Legislative Council; he knows the people of India and their problems; and his interest in their well-being has never flagged. We welcome him not only as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor, but as an old and proved friend of India.

And now it is my privilege and pleasure to ask His Royal Highness to inaugurate the new assemblies of the Council of State and Legislative Assembly.

The Duke of Connaught who was received with loud applause as he rose to address the House made the following reply :—

Speech of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at the inauguration of the Council of State and Legislative Assembly.

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE,

I am the bearer of a message from His Majesty the King-Emperor. It is this—

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE KING-EMPEROR'S MESSAGE TO THE INDIAN LEGISLATURES.

Little more than a year has elapsed since I gave my assent to the Act of Parliament which set up a constitution for British India. The intervening time has been fully occupied in perfecting the necessary machinery ; and you are now at the opening of the first session of the legislatures which the Act established. On this auspicious occasion I desire to send to you, and to the members of the various provincial Councils, my congratulations and my earnest good wishes for success in your labours and theirs.

For years, it may be for generations, patriotic and loyal Indians have dreamed of Swaraj for their motherland. Today you have beginnings of Swaraj within my Empire, and widest scope and ample opportunity for progress to the liberty which my other Dominions enjoy.

On you, the first representatives of the people in the new Councils, there rests a very special responsibility. For on you it lies by the conduct of your business and the justice of your judgments, to convince the world of the wisdom of this great constitutional change. But on you it also lies to remember the many millions of your fellow-countrymen who are not yet qualified for a share in political life, to work for their upliftment and to cherish their interests as your own.

I shall watch your work with unfailing sympathy, and with a resolute faith in your determination to do your duty to India and the Empire.

As you know, it had been the intention of His Majesty to send the Prince of Wales, the Heir to the Throne, with His greetings and His authority to open the Chambers of the new Indian Legislature. Events did not permit of his coming, and I received His Majesty's commands to perform these functions on His behalf. In me the King selected the eldest member of the Royal House, and the only surviving son of Queen Victoria whose love and care for India will ever live in its peoples' memory. I have myself a deep affection for India, having served it for years and made many friends among its Princes and leaders. It is thus with no common pleasure that I am here to receive you on this memorable occasion.

Throughout the centuries Delhi has witnessed the pomp and ceremony of many historic assemblages. Two at least of these are remembered by most of you. Twenty years ago, I took part in that brilliant concourse which celebrated the accession of my late brother, King Edward the Seventh. Nine years later, amid circumstances of unforgettable splen-

dour, King George the Fifth and His Queen received in person the homage of the Princes and peoples of India. Our ceremony today may lack the colour and romance of the gatherings I have mentioned, though it does not yield to them in the sincerity of its loyalty. But it strikes a new and different note: it marks the awakening of a great nation to the power of its nationhood.

In the annals of the world there is not, so far as I know, an exact parallel for the constitutional change which this function initiates; there is certainly no parallel for the method of that change. Political freedom has often been won by revolution, by tumult, by civil war, at the price of peace and public safety. How rarely has it been the free gift of one people to another, in response to a growing wish for greater liberty, and to growing evidence of fitness for its enjoyment. Such, however, is the position of India today; and I congratulate most warmly those of you, old in the service of your motherland, who have striven, through good report and ill, for the first instalment of that gift, and to prove India worthy of it. I trust that you, and those who take up your mantles after you, will move faithfully and steadfastly along the road which is opened today.

When India became a dependency of the British Crown, she passed under a British guardianship, which has laboured with glorious results to protect India from the consequences of her own history at homes, and from the complications of international pressure abroad. Autocratic, however, as was the Government then inaugurated, it was based on the principles laid down by Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria in that famous Proclamation of 1858, of which the key-note is contained in the following passage:—"In their prosperity will be our strength; in their contentment our security and in their gratitude our best reward." And though there have been occasions on which the tranquillity of this great country has been endangered by disturbances and disorders, which have necessitated the use of military force, speaking on behalf of His Majesty and with the assent of His Government I repudiate in the most emphatic manner the idea that the administration of India has been or ever can be based on principles of force or terrorism. All Governments are liable to be confronted with situations, which can be dealt with only by measures outside the ordinary law; but the employment of such measures is subject to clear and definite limitations; and His Majesty's Government have always insisted and will always insist on the observance of these limitations as jealously in the case of India as in that of England herself.

As His Excellency the Viceroy has observed, the principle of autocracy has all been abandoned. Its retention would have been incompatible with that contentment which had been declared by Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria to be the aim of British rule, and would have been inconsistent with the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Indian people and the stage of political development which they have attained. Henceforward, in an ever-increasing degree, India will have to bear her own burdens. They are not light. The times which have seen the conception and birth of the new constitution are full of trouble. The war which ended two years ago has done more than alter the boundaries of nations. The confusion which it brought in its train will abate in time ; but the world has not passed unchanged through the fire. New aspirations have awakened ; new problems been created, and old ones invested with a stinging urgency. India has escaped the worst ravages of the war and its sequels, and is thus in some respects better fitted than other countries to confront the future. Her material resources are unimpaired ; her financial system is sound, and her industries are ready for rapid expansion. But she cannot hope to escape altogether the consequences of the world-wide struggle. The countries of the earth are linked together as never before. A contagious ferment of scepticism and unrest is seething everywhere in the minds of men ; and its workings are plainly visible in India. She has other problems peculiarly her own. Inexperience in political methods will be irksome at times. The electorates will have to be taught their powers and responsibilities. And difficulties, which are negligible in smaller and more homogeneous countries, will arise in handling questions of religion and race and custom. Gentlemen of the Indian Legislature, such are the labours which await you. They will have to be carried on under the eyes of a watching world interested but not uncritical,—of the sister nations who welcome you into their partnership in the British Empire, of that wider Council of nations which look to India as the future guide of the unknown forces of Asia. Your individual responsibility is great. You may, perhaps, be apprehensive that the arena for practical issues of immediate moment will be rather the provincial councils than the central legislature. You may feel that the Ministers in the provinces will be in closer touch with popular causes and have larger opportunities of public service. But this is true only in a very limited sense. It is the clear intention of the Act of 1919 that the policy and decisions of the Government of India should be influenced, to an extent incomparably greater than they have been in the past, by the views of the Indian Legislature ; and the Govern-

ment will give the fullest possible effect, consistent with their own responsibilities to Parliament, to this principle of the new constitution. From now onwards your influence will extend to every sphere of the Central Government ; it will be felt in every part of its administration. You are concerned not with the province but with all British India, and statesmanship could not ask for a nobler field of exercise. Upon the manner in which your influence is exerted, upon the wisdom and foresight displayed in your deliberations, upon the spirit in which you approach your great task, will depend the progress of India towards the goal of complete self-Government.

To ensure, so far as political machinery can ensure, that the legislature is fitly equipped for those lofty duties, two Chambers have been constituted. In the Council of State it has been the intention of Parliament to create a true Senate, a body of "elder statesmen" endowed with mature knowledge, experience of the world and the consequent sobriety of judgment. Its functions will be to exercise a revising but not an overriding influence, for caution and moderation, and to review and adjust the acts of the larger Chamber. To the Assembly it will fall to voice more directly the needs of the people. Soldier and trader, owners of land and dwellers in cities, Hindu and Mahomedan, Sikh and Christian, all classes and communities will have in it their share of representation. Each class and each community can bring its own contribution, its own special knowledge, to the common deliberations. And may I say in passing that help will be expected from the representatives of the British non-official community. They have done great service to the trade and industry of India in the past ; will they now, with their special experience of representative institutions in their own land, lend their powerful aid in building up India's political life and practice ?

In a legislature thus composed, it is both inevitable and right that strong differences of opinion and aims should manifest themselves. Struggle is a condition of progress in the political as in the natural world. Politics is, in fact, the process of the clash of wills, sympathies and interests striving for adjustment in the sphere of legislation and government. But it is the great virtue of representative institutions that they tend to replace the blind encounter of conflicting interests by reasoned discussion, compromise, toleration and the mutual respect for honourable opponents. The extent to which a body of law-makers shows itself capable of controlling passion and prejudice is the measure of its capacity for enduring success. For these reflections I make no apology. They must already have been present to your minds ; but they constitute the

strongest plea for what all friends of India most desire to see,—a greater unity of purpose among her various communities. In all your deliberations let there be a conscious striving for unity in essentials, that unity which has been lacking in India in the past but may yet become, if steadfastly nurtured, her greatest strength.

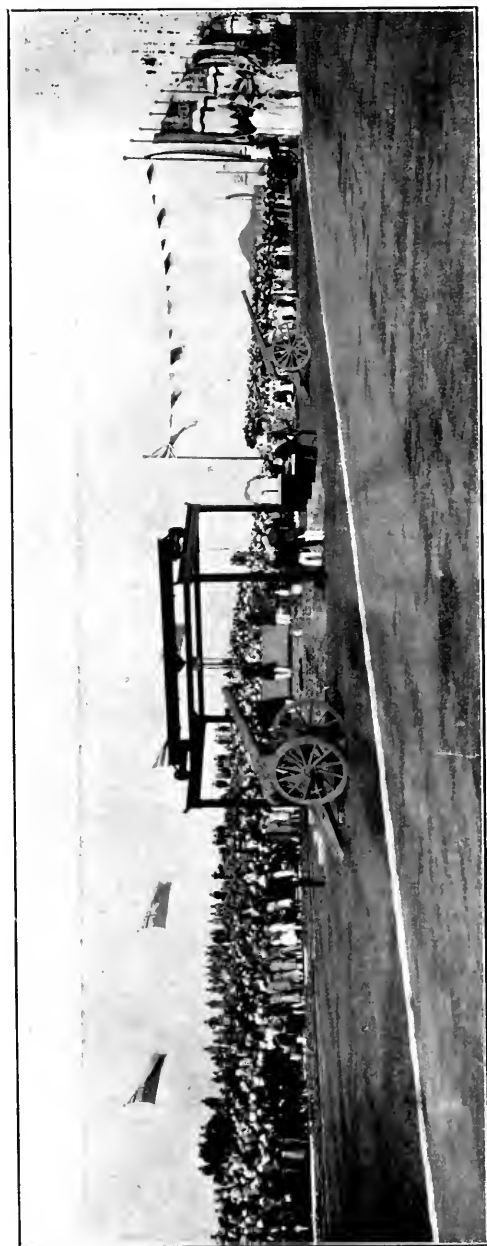
Gentlemen of the Indian Legislature, hitherto I have spoken of your duties. Let me close with a word on your privileges. On you, who have been elected the first members of the two Chambers, a signal honour has fallen. Your names will go down to history as those whom India chose to lead the van of her march towards constitutional liberty. I pray that success will attend you, and that the result of your labours will be worthy of the trust that India has reposed in you.

Your Excellency, you are approaching the end of your Viceroyalty. In almost every country of the world, the years just passed have been critical and anxious, in India no less, and I know well the vast and well nigh overwhelming anxieties which you have been called upon to face.

I know well the high sense of duty which has always prompted you, the single purpose which has possessed you, the never-failing courage which has sustained you.

From the first moment you held one special object in view. You determined, God willing, to lead India to a definite stage in her constitutional advancement. Through all distractions and difficulties you held to that determination, and today, when your thoughts are turning to the home-land and to the hour when your mantle will pass to other shoulders, when you think regretfully, as all men must in such an hour, of all the things you would have wished to do had fortune been more kind, still as you look round this Assembly, Your Excellency must surely feel “For this I have striven and in this I have won.”

I wish to offer my warm congratulations to you on the translation today into life and reality of that far-seeing scheme of political progress of which you and the Secretary of State were the authors. It must be no small pride to a statesman who had been directing the destinies of India during these difficult years, that he sees, while still in office, the foundations securely laid of that edifice which he helped to plan with infinite care, in face of much misunderstanding, and yet with the full assurance of a nation's future gratitude. I trust that Your Excellency's successor and the devoted public servants who will be his agents and advisers, will find in the new Indian Legislature an alleviation of labour, a faithful mirror of India's needs and wishes, and a trusty link between themselves and the vast millions under their care.



No. 9.—THE DUKE INSPECTING THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED WAR MEMORIAL AT NEW DELHI.



No. 10.—SCENE OF THE SITE OF THE WAR MEMORIAL. H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

And now I declare duly open the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly constituted under the Government of India Act, 1919.

Gentlemen, I have finished my part in today's official proceedings. May I claim your patience and forbearance while I say a few words of a personal nature ?

Since I landed I have felt around me bitterness and estrangement between those who have been and should be friends. The shadow of Amritsar has lengthened over the fair face of India. I know how deep is the concern felt by His Majesty the King-Emperor at the terrible chapter of events in the Punjab. No one can deplore those events more intensely than I do myself.

I have reached a time of life when I most desire to heal wounds and to reunite those who have been disunited. In what must be, I fear, my last visit to the India I love so well, here in the new Capital, inaugurating a new constitution, I am moved to make you a personal appeal, put in the simple words that come from my heart, not to be coldly and critically interpreted.

My experience tells me that misunderstandings usually mean mistakes on either side. As an old friend of India, I appeal to you all—British and Indians—to bury along with the dead past the mistakes and misunderstandings of the past, to forgive where you have to forgive, and to join hands and to work together to realise the hopes that arise from today.

Every word of the Duke's speech was listened to with rapt attention by the members present, and his personal appeal at the end made a profound impression on the Members present. The Hon'ble Mr. A. F. Whyte on behalf of the Legislative Assembly and the Hon'ble Mr. A. P. Muddiman on behalf of the Council of State thanked His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and begged him to convey a message of thanks to His Majesty the King-Emperor. His Excellency the Viceroy also made a touching acknowledgment of the trouble the Duke had taken in coming out to India. The Royal procession then left the Chamber and the Viceroy and the Duke were cheered at several places along the road by a large crowd of spectators.

On the 10th February the Duke laid the foundation stone of the All-India War Memorial in Raisina. The ceremonial at this function was

a fitting combination of the solemnity due to the glorious dead with the dignity and brilliance which are inseparable from a military gathering. The Duke and the Viceroy arrived punctually at 4-30 p.m. and were received by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. There was a remarkable gathering of representatives of the whole Indian Army who had come from all parts of India to witness the ceremony. And His Royal Highness, ever courteous and charming, as he walked down the lines, was seen constantly acknowledging the saluting with which he was warmly greeted. On the conclusion of the inspection the Duke proceeded to the flagstaff where he was to lay the foundation stone of the Memorial. The Viceroy, in the following speech, asked the Duke to lay the foundation stone :—

Speech of His Excellency the Viceroy at the laying of the foundation-stone of the All-India War Memorial.

We are assembled here, in the presence of representatives of all the units of the Indian Army, to lay the foundation-stone of the All-India War Memorial. The immortal story of the endurance and valour of the sons of India in the cold and mud of Flanders, the heat of Mesopotamia, indeed in every land where the soldiers of the Empire fought and bled, is a legacy which their sons and their sons' sons will treasure above all the wealth that the world can offer.

The stirring tales of individual heroism, which Your Royal Highness has no doubt read, will live for ever in the annals of this country. But the story of the no less heroic endurance of hardships and discomforts, of suffering and death, in the field and in captivity, is known only to those who suffered and their comrades in arms.

It is as a tribute to the memory of these heroes, known and unknown, that we are erecting the All-India War Memorial. May it serve to keep their memory green and to inspire us, for whom they fought and died, that we may endure hardships with a like silent fortitude, may fight the battle of life with no less valour, and, if Providence so wills, may lay down our lives, content, like them, with a duty honourably done and a cause nobly vindicated.

I would ask Your Royal Highness now to lay the foundation-stone of the All-India War Memorial.

In laying the foundation stone the Duke of Connaught read the following message from His Majesty the King-Emperor and made the following speech :—

War Memorial, Delhi.

OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE INDIAN ARMY AND OF THE IMPERIAL
SERVICE TROOPS,

His Majesty the King-Emperor has commanded me on this solemn occasion to convey a message of His Royal thanks to the Indian Army and to the Imperial Service Troops furnished by Indian States. It is as follows :—

“ The Great War from which our Empire has emerged victorious involved the most powerful nations of the earth and spread over vast Seas and Continents. From the crowded record, here and there certain leaders, here and there certain features, stand clearly out, arresting the attention and admiration of the world to-day, and claiming with confidence the verdict of posterity. In this honourable company the Indian Army has an assured place. Scattered far and wide, under alien skies, in adversity and in triumph they played their part with stout and gallant hearts. True to their tradition, they answered the Empire's call with soldierly discipline and fortitude. Staunch in the loyalty they have ever displayed to the Throne and Person of their King-Emperor, they made his cause their own and willingly laid down their lives for their Sovereign. Gratitude for loyalty such as this lies deep in my heart and is beyond the power of words. ‘ They did their duty.’ ”

“ Can the King for whom they fought give higher praise to his faithful soldiers ? ”

I have great pleasure in announcing that in recognition of the distinguished services and gallantry of the Indian Army during the Great War, His Majesty the King-Emperor has been graciously pleased to confer the title “ Royal ” on the following units :—

- The Deccan Horse.
- 3rd Sappers and Miners.
- 6th Jat Light Infantry.
- 34th Sikh Pioneers.
- 39th Garhwal Rifles.
- 59th Scinde Rifles (Frontier Force).
- 117th Mahrattas.
- 5th Gurkha Rifles (Frontier Force).

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to nominate me as Colonel-in-Chief of the 47th Sikhs, a Regiment which served with great distinction in the War. I greatly value an honour which will strengthen the many ties I have with my old friends, the soldiers of the *Khalsa*.

Many of us here to-day must have ringing in our ears the glowing tribute paid to the Indian Army by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales when unveiling the testimony of affection and gratitude erected by the citizens of Brighton in memory of the Indian soldiers who died there in the days of the War. India knows full well, I trust, how generously and how tenderly the people of Brighton discharged their self-allotted task of receiving and sheltering the wounded Indian soldiers brought to their care from the battlefields of France ; and I am sure that throughout India the message of good-will from the marble *chattri* at Brighton will awaken a grateful and responsive echo.

Here on Indian soil we are assembled to discharge a similar debt of honour. On this spot, in the central vista of the Capital of India, there will stand a Memorial Archway, designed to keep present in the thoughts of the generations that follow after, the glorious sacrifice of the officers and men of the Indian Army who fought and fell in the Great War. The men were nobly led and the officers were bravely followed, and we give thanks to Almighty Providence that the cause for which they fought was the cause which prevailed, and that our Memorial is not one of lives lost in vain, but a monument of great and overwhelming victory.

To-day's simple ceremony would surely appeal to those gallant soldiers who have fought their last fight and to whom we are gathered here to pay tribute. For it is a soldiers' ceremony. Before me, there are assembled from far and wide, men of the Indian Army of to-day, many of them once comrades of those who are at this hour foremost in our thoughts, but who will never again answer our *Reveillée*. Let us try to think that those absent comrades are with us here to-day, back from their distant and scattered graves, standing in our ranks once again, helping us to do them honour in the spirit they themselves would wish, inspiring us with their clearer vision to understand a soldier's duty.

I am deeply touched to find that my visit to India should enable me to take part in to-day's solemn ceremony, for my admiration and affection for the Indian Army go back many years. I belong to the older generation among soldiers. The chances of service brought me into the closest touch with the Indian Army of former days, the Army which Lord Roberts fathered, the Army which Lord Kitchener schooled. I well remember those veteran Regiments whose war medals told of service far

from their Indian homes, in China, East Africa, West Africa, South Africa, Somaliland, Egypt and the Frontiers of India and Burma. It was an Army of great tradition and splendid discipline, but little did I dream in those days what remoter echoes the Indian bugle-call would awaken, to what still more distant fields the Indian Army would one day be called, or to what immense expansion that great organisation would be brought by the strong impulse of loyalty and patriotism. To-day we know that more than a million Indians left these shores to serve abroad, of whom nearly 60,000 including 850 Indian officers gave up their lives in the Empire's cause.

The many campaigns in which the units of the Indian Army took part are written in history. The honours they won were many, but on these I shall not dwell now. Some indeed are proudly worn by those who stand here before me. But the sole honour we commemorate here is the honour of the great sacrifice, the supreme honour of a soldier's death.

What though the world sometimes seems to us dark with trouble and the sky overcast. Let us look back with pride, and forward with hope. For these men showed us the true heart of India. Through them, we know that the soul of India has only to be touched aright and India will respond to her King-Emperor's call. In this hour of crowding memories let us have no sombre thoughts but recapture once again that thrill which passed through us all, when we first heard in those far off days of 1914, that Indian troops had landed at Marseilles, and were pressing on towards our thinly held battle-lines in France and Flanders. That is the vision which the glorious dead would wish us to have to-day. Their tradition lives. The Army goes on, fortified by their example, to face whatever task the future may have in store.

You men of the Indian Army know when a fine Regiment marches through the streets of a busy town, how every one quits his work, stands and looks in admiring silence, or marches along with you. Is it merely because of your glittering array, or the rhythm of your march? No, it is something far deeper than that. It is the spirit of the Army making itself felt, the spirit of discipline, of unity, of brave tradition, of comradeship till death. In the presence of that moral force, men turn from the sordid cares of every-day life and pay you unconscious reverence, as though some uplifting influence had passed through their work-a-day world. You enjoy a great heritage of honour. Strive then always to uphold the honour of your regiments, and be faithful to the memory of these gallant soldiers who have added lustre to your name and fame. I

like to recall the simple tribute paid by the Indian Corps Commander in France. He wrote—

“ The discipline of this Corps has been above reproach ; they have behaved like gentlemen, and the French and British both know it well. If they had done nothing else, they would still leave Europe with a clean sheet as citizens of the Empire.” “ They behaved like gentlemen.” I do not think that those who gave up their lives would wish for an epitaph more eloquent than this.

May the spirit of the Indian Army ever remain bright and untarnished, and on the great examples which we commemorate here to-day, may new and great traditions be founded, and the Indian Army of the future, through them re-consecrated and re-inspired, be the worthy heir of those who fought and died under its Colours in the Great War !

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in thanking the Duke said :—

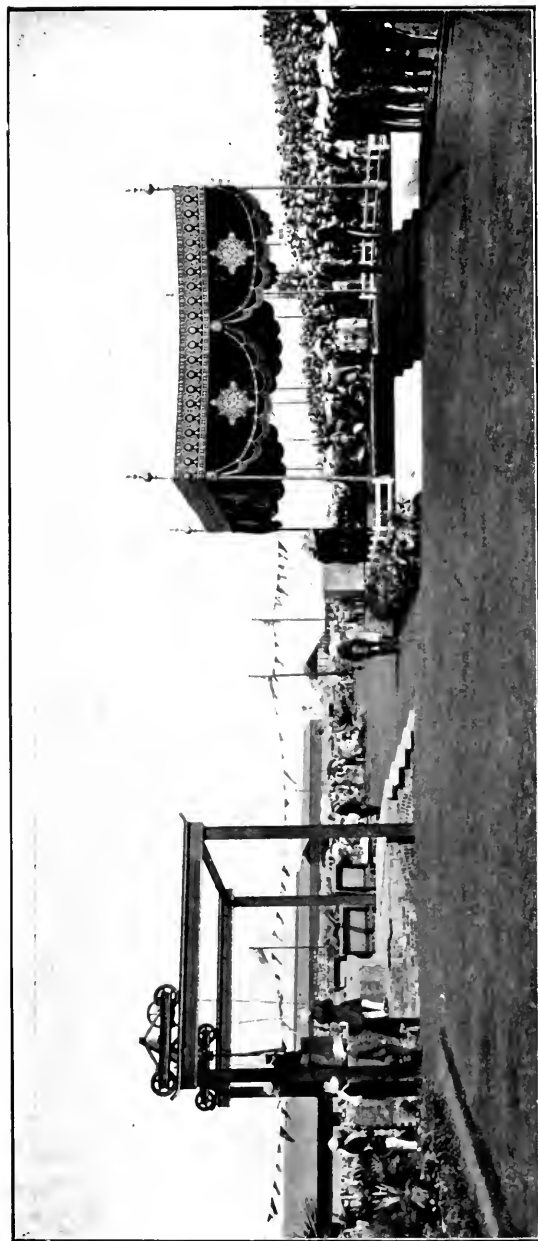
“ All ranks of the Indian Army pay their most respectful gratitude for the eulogistic terms in which you have so graciously referred to their deeds during the great war.

“ They welcome with delight the presence of their well beloved Field-Marshal once more amongst them and remember with pride and gratification the many occasions in the past when they have had the honour of serving under Your Royal Highness’ personal command. They wish to assure your Royal Highness of their constant attention to duty, and of their unswerving loyalty to the Empire, and to His Majesty the King-Emperor.”

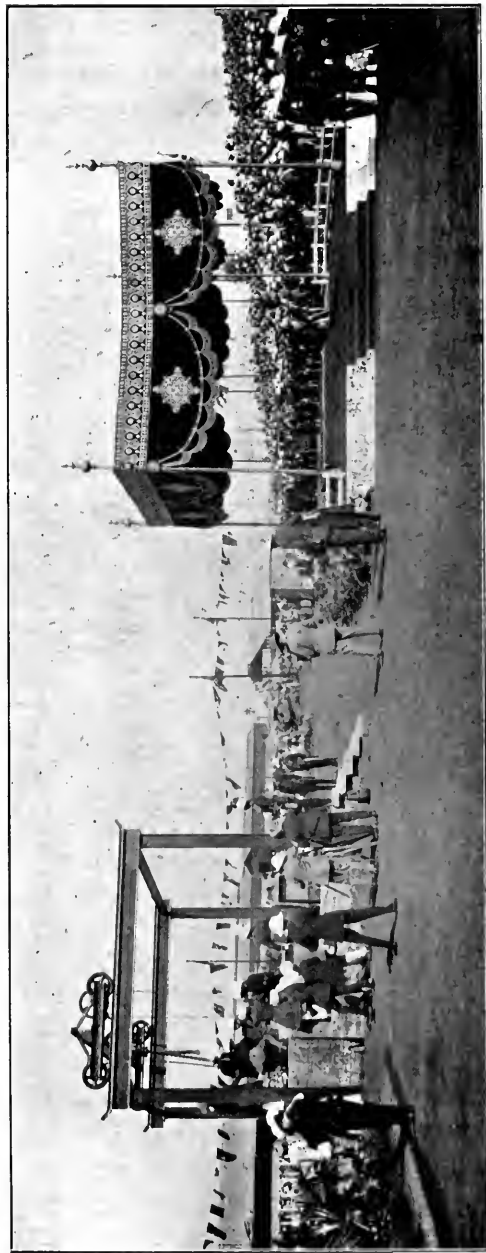
On the morning of the 11th February the Duke of Connaught laid the the foundation stone of the new Council Chambers. In inviting His Royal Highness to lay the foundation stone His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech :—

Speech of His Excellency the Viceroy at the ceremony of the laying of the foundation-stone of the Legislative Chambers, Delhi.

The edifice, of which I am asking Your Royal Highness to lay the foundation-stone to-day, comprises within one circle the three separate buildings, in which the Chamber of Princes, the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly will be housed.



No. 11.—THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT MAKING HIS SPEECH ON THE OCCASION OF LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION
STONE OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS.



No. 12.—H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS
AT NEW DELHI.

This first step towards providing these bodies with a permanent and worthy home for their deliberations is a necessary complement to the inauguration ceremonies in which we have recently taken part.

The building is one which makes a special appeal to the imagination of those who forecast the future of our new reformed councils. It is within the walls which will spring up here that the destinies of British India will some day be moulded and that the representative institutions, which have now come into being and are making essay of their first steps, will arrive at their full maturity and strength.

The building makes an even wider appeal. For here under one roof and within one circle will be gathered not only the representatives of British India but of India in the wider sense. The joint building is the symbol of the integral connection of the Indian States with the British Empire. It testifies to the united interests of British India and Indian States. It stands for that two-fold allegiance which the Princes and peoples of India owe in their several degrees to one King-Emperor, and for a common desire to work to one great end.

This ceremony represents indeed the development of one great purpose of which Queen Victoria laid the foundations in the Royal Proclamation of 1876—that is the unity of the Indian Empire. I now invite Your Royal Highness to lay the foundation-stone of this building which is destined to be of such moment to the new constitutions in India and to the Empire.

The Duke replied as follows :—

Speech by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the Imperial Legislative Chambers.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I feel that the ceremony which I am asked to perform to-day is one in which His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor will take the keenest interest.

I may remind you that the King-Emperor, when he was last among you in Delhi, made his gracious announcement regarding the transfer of the seat of Government to the ancient capital at Delhi. I may recall the very words in which His Majesty on that occasion expressed his wishes.

“ It is our earnest desire that these changes may conduce to the better administration of India ;” and His Majesty likewise prayed that the decision might increase “ the welfare of the Indian Empire and the prosperity and happiness of his people.”

Since then His Majesty has watched with continuous interest the progress made in the construction of the new capital, and His Majesty will be gratified to hear that the foundation-stone of the new Legislative Chambers has been laid during my visit. These buildings will not only be the home of new representative institutions which mark a vast stride forward in the political development of India and of the British Empire, but will, I trust, stand for future generations as the symbol of India’s rebirth to yet higher destinies. All great rulers, every great people, every great civilization have left their own record in stone and bronze and marble, as well as in the pages of history. I need only recall the Acropolis of Athens, the Capital of Rome, and the great cities of the East famous in past ages for their splendour and culture. India herself is rich in such precious legacies. From the granite pillars on which the Apostle Emperor Asoka engraved his imperishable edicts, onwards through the chequered centuries, down to the splendid palaces of the Moghal Emperors, every age has left behind it some monument commensurate with its own achievements. Is it not a worthy ideal that equally noble buildings shall consecrate India’s great achievements in the 20th Century ; her solemn entry upon the path of responsible Government, which Great Britain and the Self-governing Dominions of the Empire have trod before her ? Is there any building in Great Britain, around which cluster so many and such great memories as the stately home of the Mother of Parliaments on the banks of the River Thames ? Have not each of the Self-governing Dominions in the Empire wisely sought to enshrine their new nationhood in a new Capital of which its own Parliament is always the proudest monument ? Surely India and her representatives in the new Assemblies which it has already been my privilege to inaugurate, will wish that these great institutions should be liberally and enduringly housed.

A great Englishman has truly said—

“ Architecture has its political use ; public buildings being the ornament of a country ; it establishes a nation ; and makes a people love their native country, which passion is the original of all great actions in a Commonwealth.”

May I express the hope that the Government, the Princes and the people of India will not fail to give visible and permanent architectural

expression in ever enduring stone to these high ideals, and will endeavour to complete the buildings of New Delhi with an excellence at least not inferior to the noble beginnings which we now see rising up before us; so that they shall not compare unfavourably with the monuments bequeathed to her so bountifully by former generations.

My earnest hope is that New Delhi may not only become a capital worthy of the future greatness of India, but also one of the great national Capitals which will link the peoples of the Empire together in enduring peace and prosperity under the ægis of the British Crown.

Thus ended the last public function during the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to Delhi. In His Royal Highness' association with the building which is to accommodate the Legislative Assembly, the Council of State and the Chamber of Princes, will for ever be found a touching proof of the interest His Royal Highness has always taken in India's welfare—an admirable manifestation of the sympathy in India's difficulties for which our gracious King-Emperor had so eloquently pleaded in 1905 on the completion of his first tour in this country.

At Rawalpindi.

On the 16th February His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught visited Rawalpindi and was received at the station by His Excellency the Governor, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Rawlinson, General Sir William Birdwood, Major-General Sir Herbert C. C. Uniacke, the Commissioner, Mr. Tollinton. Lady Maclagan and Miss Pamela Maclagan were also present.

Formal presentations were made and after inspecting the Guards of Honour His Royal Highness advanced towards the siding where he was received by the Commissioner and a deputation of the principal citizens. The Commissioner in welcoming the Duke spoke as follows:—

Address of welcome presented to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught by the inhabitants of the Rawalpindi Division on 16th February, 1921.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

On behalf of the inhabitants of the Rawalpindi Division we beg to offer Your Royal Highness our humble and loyal welcome to Rawalpindi.

Your Royal Highness is no stranger to India and no stranger to Rawalpindi.

We cherish happy memories of the time when Your Royal Highness commanded at Rawalpindi and lived in our midst.

We are proud to believe that from that time to this Your Royal Highness has taken a keen interest in this country and has followed its fortunes.

We count it our greatest good fortune that in the Great War, when the Punjab was called "The Sword Arm of India," we of the Rawalpindi Division were given the opportunity to shew our loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

None has doubted our loyalty in time of War. Let none doubt our loyalty in time of peace.

It is our humble prayer that Your Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to transmit to His Majesty the King-Emperor an expression of our humble and loyal devotion to His Crown and Person.

His Royal Highness replied to the address in the following terms :—

His Royal Highness' reply to the Address of the inhabitants of the Rawalpindi Division, on 16th February 1921.

GENTLEMEN,

In the course of my visit to India this is the first occasion on which I have been welcomed by a gathering of this character. You do not represent any corporate body. You are the unofficial spokesmen of a great rural area, and without laboured discussion or examination of precedents in committee, you have come to welcome me, in your hearty north country way, as a member of the Royal House and as an old friend and resident of Rawalpindi.

To my old friendship for you, which goes back for nearly 40 years, there is now added a deep and whole-hearted admiration inspired by my knowledge of what you did in the war. Taken as a whole, the achievement of the Punjab was remarkable. Even before the War the Punjabee had a name familiar in the military annals of the Empire, but during the War he became a household word, not only on account of the number of men from the Punjab who joined the Colours, but also on account of the splendid fighting qualities displayed in many a hard-fought campaign. But I will not rest content with mere generalities when the figures themselves are so eloquent. Before the War the Punjab had 100,000 men of all ranks in the Army, of whom, 30,000 came from your Division. It is estimated that at the close of the War no less than 475,000 Punjabees had served in the Army. Of these the Rawalpindi Division supplied approximately 125,000, that is to say 1 out of every 14 of the total male population. Thus, in contribution of man power, the Districts of Rawalpindi and Jhelum easily surpassed all the districts in India, while out of 1,738 War honours awarded to the Punjab 625, or more than one third, have fallen to the Rawalpindi Division, including two Victoria Crosses.

Furthermore, though the Districts of your Division are poor in comparison with the Central Punjab, you subscribed 90 lakhs to the War Loan and 9 lakhs to various funds.

Gentlemen, knowing what you have done, I am indeed proud to meet you once again and to feel that my old friends, and their sons, have so splendidly upheld the honour of the Land of the Five Rivers.

It is a great pleasure to me to find myself once again in Rawalpindi. This day revives happy memories of my service as a soldier in India and I look forward to renewing many old ties while I am in your midst.

His Majesty the King-Emperor is fully aware of the devotion displayed by these districts of the Punjab in the Empire's hour of need, and of their share in the Empire's victory, and when I communicate your loyal message to him, His Majesty will remember that the loyalty of the people of the Rawalpindi Division is not a mere expression of formal courtesy but an established fact which has been signally demonstrated on the battle-fields of the Empire.

At Bombay.

On the 21st February 1921, the Duke of Connaught arrived in Bombay and received a wonderful welcome combining as he did in himself the messenger of His Majesty and a former resident of Bombay where he had spent many years as Commander-in-Chief of the Presidency. At 10 o'clock in the morning the special train carrying His Royal Highness and party steamed into the Victoria Terminus Station where a representative gathering of distinguished citizens, high officials of Government, ruling chiefs, Sirdars and the representatives of foreign nations had assembled.

As the Duke stepped out of the Special he was received by His Excellency the Governor, and guns from the Fort announced to the city that the Royal visitor had arrived. His Excellency the Governor then introduced to the Duke—

The Nawab of Savanur.

The Rawalji of Mansa.

The Chief of Miraj (Junior) Meherban Bhau Saheb Patwardhan.

Chief of Kurundwad (Junior) Meherban Nana Saheb Patwardhan.

Chief of Kurundwad (Junior), the Thakore of Kootasan.

Shrimant R. S. Pant Sachiv, son and heir-apparent of His Highness the Chief of Bhore.

Meherban Narayan Govind *alias* Babasaheb Ghorpade, Jaghirdar of Ichalkaranji.

Meherban Sardar Vinayak Dhundiraj Bivalkar.

Meherban Sardar Narayan Ganpatrao Vinchurkar.

General Shri Krishna Shamsher Jung of Nepal.

Next followed other presentations :—

The High Court Judges were introduced by the Chief Justice, and among them were—

The Hon'ble Sir L. A. Shah.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. B. Marten.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice E. M. Pratt.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. M. Kajiji.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. G. H. Fawcett.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. C. Crump.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. B. Kanga.

Colonel H. A. V. Cummina, the officer Commanding Bombay District was then introduced by General Marshall.

High officials and distinguished members of the public were introduced by Mr. Lawrence, Chief Secretary. They were—

- Mr. J. L. Rieu, Commissioner in Sind.
- Sir Lawless Hepper, Director of Development.
- Major-General W. E. Jennings, Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay.
- Mr. F. G. Pratt, Commissioner, C. D.
- Mr. P. R. Cadell, Commissioner, S. D.
- Mr. W. C. Shepherd, Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Excise.
- Mr. J. Ghosal, Commissioner, N. D.
- Sir Dinshaw M. Petit.
- Sir Cowasji Jehangir.
- Sir Sassoon David.
- Sir Thomas Strangman, Advocate-General.
- Mr. C. M. Baker, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
- Mr. A. C. Wild, Secretary to Government, Legal Department.
- Mr. P. W. Monie, Secretary to Government, Development Department.
- Mr. J. Crerar, Secretary to Government, Home Department.
- Mr. A. Montgomerie, Secretary to Government, Political Department.
- Mr. J. C. Ker, Secretary to Government, General Department.
- Mr. E. M. Procs, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.
- Mr. R. T. Harrison, Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.
- Mr. J. G. Covernton, Director of Public Instruction.
- Mr. J. S. Milne, Accountant-General, Bombay.
- Mr. C. W. C. Carson, Deputy Controller of Currency.
- Mr. L. Robertson, Inspector General of Police.
- Lieutenant-Colonel F. O. N. Mell, Inspector General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.
- Mr. J. P. Brander, Collector of Bombay.
- Mr. W. E. Copleston, Chief Conservator of Forests.
- Mr. F. C. Griffith, Commissioner of Police, Bombay.
- Mr. R. D. Bell, Director of Industries.
- Mr. S. J. Gillum, Sheriff of Bombay.
- Mr. G. Wiles, Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department.

The President and Members of the Bombay Municipal Corporation then advanced to the front of the dais to present their address to His Royal Highness. His Excellency the Governor having introduced Mr. H. B. Clayton, Mr. Dobholkar proceeded to read the following address :—

Address of Welcome by Municipal Corporation.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We, the President and Members of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay, feel great pleasure in offering you in the name and on behalf of the citizens of Bombay, a hearty welcome to this city. Your Royal Highness comes among us at the dawn of a new era of political progress and advancement not as a stranger but as an illustrious member of the Royal House of England who thirty-eight years ago cheerfully made his home in the trying climate of this country in order to pursue his career as a soldier in the Indian Army. Since that date your Royal Highness has honoured us with your gracious visits on three different occasions and given further proofs of the love for this country which you have inherited from your revered mother Queen Victoria.

We recall with pride that as Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army your Royal Highness evinced deep solicitude for the promotion of the comfort and welfare of the soldiers under your command, devoted special attention to the problems concerning the fortifications for the defence of Bombay and Aden and left your mark on the service as a sagacious, successful and popular military administrator. We cherish also a lively recollection of the keen interest taken by your Royal Highness in the governance of this country and of the active part you took in the proceedings of the local Legislative Council when the Municipal Act for the City of Bombay, the charter under which the municipal government of the city is still being carried on, was passed. The fair-mindedness and firmness with which your Royal Highness stood by the non-official members of the Council against the officials in a division on the question of creating the appointment of Deputy Municipal Commissioner, regarding the constitutional aspect of which there was considerable difference of opinion, forms an episode of peculiar interest in our local annals. Your Royal Highness thus links the present, which is full of hope and promise, with the early days of self-government in this country.

We trust it will be gratifying to your Royal Highness to find that since you participated in the consideration of the plans for the expansion of this city it has grown beyond the expectation of the most sanguine town-planner. You will be glad to learn, moreover, that divers schemes for the further extension and development of Bombay are now engaging the attention of the recently created Development Directorate and of the Municipality of this city and other local organizations. The population of our city has nearly doubled since your first visit. The Municipal revenue and expenditure, which then amounted to Rs. 37,00,000 a year, have now risen to Rs. 2,27,00,000, an increase accompanied by a corresponding advance in education, sanitary measures and the material welfare of the citizens. We are not unconscious of the fact that a good deal yet remains to be accomplished to place the city on a footing of equality with the principal progressive cities in Europe and America. We trust, however, that your Royal Highness will consider the progress so far made not unworthy of a city which has the reputation of being a notable example of the successful application of the principles of local self-government in British India. Not only in Bombay but throughout the country the experiment of local self-government has proved a success wherever it has been given a fair trial and we trust that the new Constitution which your Royal Highness has inaugurated as the representative of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor will place His Majesty's Indian subjects firmly on the path to complete self-government within the Empire.

We regret that considerations of health should have prevented His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales from coming to this country to represent the Crown on this memorable occasion. We rejoice, however, that your Royal Highness undertook the mission in his stead. We gratefully appreciate the grace and good will which have prompted you to do so and are deeply sensible of the significance of your mission. It is a signal token of the warm interest which His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor takes in the new era of political progress which has now been inaugurated in this country.

We trust that as one who was closely associated with the people of this country for a number of years you were gratified at the unmistakable manifestation of their loyalty to the Crown during the world struggle from which the Empire has now happily emerged and at the services which they were able to render to the cause of justice and humanity in those critical days. After the war a wave of general awakening and

unrest has swept over the whole world. As in other countries so in this, new aspirations and new and conflicting theories and ideals of national existence are agitating the minds of the people, but whatever their differences there is one thing which links them all together and that is their sentiment of loyalty and attachment to the throne and person of their august Sovereign. We respectfully request that when you return home you will convey to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor this assurance of our devotion. We pray that His Majesty may live long to rule over the millions of people who own allegiance to the British flag and that the great and glorious British Empire may grow from year to year in power and prosperity, drawing its federated members as equal partners and free citizens in closer and closer bonds of mutual confidence and good will.

In conclusion, we again offer Your Royal Highness a heartfelt welcome. We trust you will carry with you most pleasant reminiscences of your visit and of the attachment of the people of this land to Your Royal Highness. The remembrance of your affection and sympathy for them will long abide in their memory and they will devoutly pray for your health and happiness.

The address was placed in a silver casket and presented to His Royal Highness by the President amidst cheers. The most significant part of the address was the reference to the recollection of the active part the Duke had taken in the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council when the Municipal Act for the city of Bombay was passed. "The fair-mindedness and firmness with which Your Royal Highness" the address recalled "stood by the non-official Members of the Council against the officials in a division on the question of creating the appointment of a Deputy Municipal Commissioner, regarding the constitution and aspect of which there was considerable difference of opinion, forms an episode of peculiar interest in our local annals."

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught made the following reply :—

Reply of His Royal Highness.

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF BOMBAY,

I thank you from my heart for your address of welcome. I recall with no less pride than you, my past connection with your City, and with the

Presidency of which it is the capital. That I should have been associated in the past, with steps in any way conducive to the well-being of this great city, is for me a matter of the highest gratification. Your account of the progress of Bombay, and of your plans for the future, assures me that the spirit of enterprise which has distinguished your Corporation in the past has not flagged, and I eagerly look forward to seeing the many and great changes which have been effected, since I was last here, nearly twenty years ago. I have heard that you have driven wide thoroughfares and handsome streets through parts which at that time were slums. No less marked, I am told, is the energy with which you are developing the north of the Island. Geographical conditions, making though they do, for the great natural beauty of Bombay, impose a heavy handicap on the ordered development of the city, and I have studied with deep interest, the remarkable and far-reaching proposals, for extending your boundaries, which now claim your anxious attention. The public-spirited manner in which the citizens of Bombay have subscribed the money necessary to carry out these great improvements, augurs well for the success of the schemes with which your Corporation is so closely associated.

Your municipal constitution has won wide-spread admiration, and has served as a model to the rest of India. It bears the indelible mark of genius impressed upon it by the late Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, whom I am proud to remember as a friend. His was a personality not easily forgotten, but Bombay has never lacked public-spirited leaders to guide her destinies, and I have read with great pleasure of the recent unveiling, in your Corporation Hall, of the portraits of three citizens prominent in the annals of your public life. One was Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, whose influence still lives here, though he is no longer with you. The second, Sir Dinshaw Wacha, a grand old representative of a splendid community. The third, Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoolah, whose great gifts, developed in your municipal life, are now utilised in the highest sphere of Government.

The hour brings the man, and in studying with appreciation, the history of your vast and epoch-making Improvement Scheme, I have formed the opinion—and I trust you will agree with it — that in Sir George Lloyd, the hour has once again brought the man, a man whose drive, resolution and enthusiasm will never accept defeat or failure, and who is destined to leave his mark on the history of Bombay.

Let me assure you that I realise to the full the magnitude of the task now confronting you. But, is not Bombay, from her earliest beginnings,

a shining example of difficulties stoutly met and triumphantly overcome? The gradual uprising of this great city upon a hazardous foundation of scattered swamps and islands, furnishes an unparalleled record of human enterprise and determination. Nor is the triumph won here due to the efforts of any single community. It is the work of many and varied communities, working together to one end. May the same spirit inspire you in your new task, and may the pride of citizenship in Bombay ever come before the narrow interests and prejudices of caste and class.

I shall have the greatest pleasure in conveying to the King-Emperor the sentiments of loyalty and devotion you have so felicitously expressed. His Majesty is well aware of the great opportunities of helping the Empire which fell to this city during the Great War, and how willingly and generously you accepted the burdens that were laid upon you. In many a home in England, the kindness received in the war hospitals of Bombay is an unforgettable memory.

Gentlemen, among the cities of India Bombay is my first love and my last. In my absence my thoughts have often turned wistfully to her across the sea, and with the fond eye of memory I have seen her bright girdle of diamonds, sparkling, as night falls, on Colaba and Malabar. Greatly as I have travelled, I know no more beautiful sight in the world, and I rejoice at the good fortune which has brought me back yet once again.

Bombay has never failed to welcome me as a friend, and I thank you once more for the cordial greeting you have given me, and for all your good wishes.

The Duke of Connaught on his way to Government House passed through streets which were packed with a smiling crowd, and His Royal Highness was vociferously cheered as the procession moved away from the station. A gathering representative of many races and creeds of Bombay in all their diversity of countenance and costume had poured out into the streets to welcome His Royal Highness not only for his own sake as one who is still remembered as a former General Officer Commanding, but as the son of the great Queen Victoria. The reception accorded to His Royal Highness afforded a strong testimony to the enthusiasm and spontaneity with which the citizens who included men from all parts of Bombay had met to welcome the Duke. It was a fine welcome all along the way and it almost appeared as though the people of Bombay had anticipated the words of kindly recollection uttered by His Royal Highness at the station in reply to the address given by the Municipality

and were determined to show him that they also have happy memories of the days when the Duke lived and worked among them. The efforts that had been made by public enterprise to decorate and beautify the long route with floral arches, floral garlands, venetian masts and strings of bunting flags were also noteworthy.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught inspected the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides at the Bombay Gymkhana at 10 o'clock on the 22nd February. Over 800 Scouts and Guides and some 200 men of the St. John Ambulance Brigade took part in the rally. His Royal Highness was received with rousing cheers from the crowd assembled at the entrance in the Esplanade Road and was met on arrival by His Excellency the Governor who presented to him Mr. Haig-Brown, President of the Gymkhana. Preceded by the staff and accompanied by Their Excellencies the Governor and the Hon'ble Lady Lloyd, the Duke of Connaught was conducted to the dais. The rally was thoroughly representative, including as it did representatives of all the Bombay troops, contingents and scouts from Kirkee and Baroda. And it will be no exaggeration to say that it was a fully cosmopolitan gathering of all associations—European, Anglo-Indian and Indian. The following were presented with awards by the Duke :—

Insignia and Diploma of Honorary Serving Brother :—
Captain T. J. Brewin, O.B.E.

Long Service Medal Bar :—

Divisional Superintendent D. F. Panthaki, M.B.E.
Ambulance Officer G. N. Gazdar.
Corporal A. C. Doctor.

Long Service Medal :—

Divisional Surgeon Captain F. N. Kapadia, M.D., I.M.S.
Ambulance Officer D. S. Barucha.
Ambulance Officer D. F. Kharas.
First Class Sergeant R. E. Sethna.
First Class Sergeant N. E. Baria.
Corporal F. D. Mehta.
Private E. H. Suntok.

War Service Badge :—

First Class Sergeant M. R. Patel.
Sergeant A. B. Homavazir.
Corporal J. C. Commissariatvala.
J. B. Dubash.

Corporal J. D. Desai.

„ J. F. Gharda.

Private R. F. Enty.

„ R. M. Taraporevala.

„ M. A. Darvar.

„ J. N. Balsara.

„ M. S. Daruvala.

„ K. A. Fitter.

„ J. D. Bilimoria.

„ K. M. Driver.

„ H. B. Kabraji.

„ N. J. Wadia.

„ K. B. Sanjana.

„ J. A. Confectioner.

„ D. M. Darukhanavala.

„ M. K. Kanga.

„ R. M. Kapadia.

„ J. J. Vajifdar.

„ D. P. Daruvala.

„ B. R. Madon.

„ N. D. Bilimoria.

„ B. J. Shroff.

„ J. J. Vacha.

„ S. J. Dubash.

„ B. S. Ghaswala.

„ J. M. Mody.

„ P. E. Kotval.

Officer J. M. Surty (now of Surat Cosmopolitan Division).

Officer J. D. Kothavala.

Long Service Medal :—

Officer M. F. Mulla.

Divisional Superintendent A. K. Rane.

Corporal R. K. Raue.

Private V. G. Vagle.

„ W. J. Martin .

„ G. B. Mankar.

After the presentations His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, accompanied by His Excellency the Governor, Captain Todd, and others, inspected the Scouts and guides. At the conclusion of the inspection.

which had lasted for over fifteen minutes the Duke, addressing the rally, spoke as follows :—

Speech delivered by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at the Review of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in Bombay on 22nd February 1921.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides,—It affords me the greatest pleasure to see you here to-day. I have long taken a very great interest in the Boy Scout movement. I am President of the Boy Scouts Association and I was for five years Chief Scout of Canada. You can understand that I follow with the deepest interest this movement here in India. I believe that there is a great future—and a very useful future—for the Boy Scout movement and Girl Guides throughout the Indian Empire. I hope it will bring together our different races to work together for the good of India and train boys and girls to become good citizens of their country, especially in inculcating that discipline which is necessary to success. What are the rules of the Boy Scouts? You are always to do a good action every day, always show respect for your seniors and kindness to your fellow men. If you keep these principles in view I am sure you will be training up a most useful body of young men and young women in the service of their country. I hope that all the Scouts and Guides will act together. It is perhaps more difficult in India than elsewhere, but I am certain that, with proper support and good Scout Masters and Mistresses, the movement ought to improve in every way.

I am glad to thank the Baroda Boy Scouts for having attended here in such large numbers. I had the pleasure of seeing four of them in England undergoing instruction as Scout Masters. I wish you every success in the Presidency of Bombay. I was pleased to see that the parade to-day was representative of all the different races of Bombay. I hope you will continue to increase in numbers and usefulness and good conduct and I wish you one and all every success.

At noon on the 23rd February 1921 His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught inaugurated the Bombay Legislative Council. The Bombay Town Hall which had been suitably decorated was the scene of the impressive and dignified ceremony which formally opened up a new era of constitutional progress granted under the Government of India Act of 1919. Punctually at 12 o'clock, preceded by his staff, His Royal Highness, who was wearing full uniform, entered the Chamber in procession and

was received at the dais by His Excellency the Governor with whom he shook hands. When the Members of the Legislative Council had taken their seats His Excellency rose to request His Royal Highness to inaugurate the Council and, in doing so, delivered the following speech :—

His Excellency the Governor's Address of Welcome to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at the Inauguration of the Bombay Legislative Council on the 23rd February 1921.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

The fact that this Presidency is bound to Your Royal Highness by long standing ties of hospitality makes it a peculiar privilege to be entrusted by its people and Government with the task of offering to Your Royal Highness a respectful and affectionate welcome.

The disappointment so keenly felt by the people of Bombay when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was prevented from paying us his promised visit, is now greatly mitigated by the fact that Your Royal Highness has been chosen to undertake this task and it is a matter of very particular gratification to us that the message of our unswerving loyalty and affection to the Throne and Person of His Imperial Majesty should be conveyed by one who has obtained so sure a place in the love and affection of our people as Your Royal Highness has by personal sympathy and outstanding service.

The importance of the ceremony which Your Royal Highness performs to-day is not, I think, indeed cannot be, fully comprehended by us who participate, whose vision is obscured by the dust of ephemeral conflicts, and our attention occupied by matters which possess by comparison but a temporary interest.

Yet when the country of our birth or adoption comes to such a milestone as this on the road of its progress, should we not endeavour to form a calm judgment as to the direction we are taking—a judgment as unprejudiced, as pitilessly impartial as history will one day pronounce upon it.

Those that come after us and for whom we have worked will know and see nothing of the conflicts and differences that have vexed us at different points of our progress—the foothills that loomed so large at the commencement are invisible to the gaze of the mountaineer on the summit—all that posterity will see will be the great act, the free gift of self-government to a people direct from the hands of His Majesty the

King-Emperor, an act that overshadows all faction and that obscures all controversy—and it will see this day's ceremony as the culminating point of a policy formulated with infinite care and anxiety and put into practice with a fixed and deliberate intention. They will ask, was that policy consistent with the great principles of humane government and we who will then be judged unheard, may now at least put on record the plea that we should desire to be admitted. As to the method we employed, results alone can shew whether wisdom was vouchsafed us. We have obeyed the dictates of something that is inherent in our nature that bade us follow the course that in our own history won us success. We have preferred less to make a gift than to put that gift where with energy it can be taken knowing well that only the struggle will give the strength to guard when got.

But for the ideal we ensued—the policy we undertook—even at this point of time it can be clearly stated without fear of challenge. Its chief aim has been gradually to lead this country to self-government. And consistently with this declared ideal our subsidiary policy has been to maintain the peace which is vital to steady progress, both material and political. So that we may say to-day in the older words of a great orator :

“The proposition is peace. Not peace through the medium of war : not peace to be hunted through the labyrinth of intricate and endless negotiations. It is simple peace, sought in its natural course and in its ordinary haunts, it is peace sought in the spirit of peace and laid in principles purely pacific.”

These two ideals, the principal and subsidiary, have not always been easy to reconcile. Of late years, and as a result of our labours in pursuit of the chief ideal, there has arisen a spirit at whose appearance all of those who have worked here in whatever capacity may rejoice with a legitimate pride—a spirit of nationality—of restless eagerness for corporate progress, which while it contains a possibility of temporary dangers affords to the prophet and seer the first and sure hope of success. This spirit has brought with it a temper impatient of restraint—the temper of youth and ambition, eager to set its own claims against the just claims of the presiding power. All must realise that in order to keep the peace in such circumstances compromise was essential. One of our greatest statesmen realised it long ago when he said :

“I am and ever have been deeply sensible of the difficulty of reconciling the strong presiding power with the liberty and safety of the provinces. They who perceive no difficulty in reconciling these two

temper are much above my capacity or much below the magnitude of the business. Of one thing I am perfectly clear that it is not by deciding the suit but by compromising the difference that peace can be restored or kept. They who would put an end to such quarels, by declaring roundly in favour of the whole demands of either party have mistaken the office of mediator."

In the Council which Your Royal Highness inaugurates to-day, is clear proof that the office of mediator has been rightly interpreted. Posterity will assuredly pronounce a verdict adverse to those who have resisted compromise and failed to see the just needs of Empire and the rights it claims in return for benefits conferred.

Let us be content with this claim and with the respectful assurance which we would ask Your Royal Highness to convey to His Imperial Majesty that the spirit and the resources of the people of this Presidency are equal to the great tasks that are now in progress and are yet to be undertaken—the amelioration of the conditions in which many lakhs of souls live and work in this great city, the mighty engineering works that are to bring fertility to the desert and the arid plain, the exploitation in the best interests of our people of the giant tracts of rich forest—and that the members of this assembly realize to the full the gravity of the responsibility which to-day is laid upon them—that they are animated by a determination to enlist the sympathies and correctly interpret the wishes of all classes of the Presidency, and that they will to the utmost of their power maintain the blessings of peace, prosperity and progress and keep strong and unimpaired the ties of loyalty which bind them to the Empire and to the Crown and Person of His Imperial Majesty.

His Royal Highness then rose amidst deafening applause and delivered the following address in clear and distinct tones :—

*Speech Delivered by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught
at the Inauguration of the Bombay Legislative Council
on the 23rd February 1921.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND MEMBERS OF THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor has directed me to open on His behalf your new legislature, and to convey to you and the people of the Presidency His message of goodwill on this momentous day in

your history. Your long period of waiting and preparation is over, and to-day you pass through the gateway into a new political life. May it be rich in blessings to the millions in whose destiny you and your successors will have so potent a voice !

My pleasure in fulfilling the King-Emperor's commands is greatly enhanced by the memories of my old association with the Presidency and people of Bombay. Thirty-four years ago, I came here as Commander-in-Chief of the then Bombay Army. In those days the Commander-in-Chief was a member of the provincial Government, and it was thus my good fortune to be closely connected with the administration, and to be able to put into practice the deep interest which I felt in all that concerned the welfare of the Presidency. Before I left India in 1890, links had been forged which bound me to you for the rest of my life. It has affected me deeply to revisit the scene of some of my happiest years.

The change and progress in your beautiful city are material symbols of what has been happening in the realm of men's minds throughout India. Ideals which 30 years ago seemed chimerical are now being realised ; hopes which were hardly uttered are now being fulfilled. The pride and self-respect of nationhood have been awakened ; its responsibilities are gathering on the shoulders of those who essay to lead the intelligence of the country.

Gentlemen of the Bombay Council, of those responsibilities you have a full share. In their insistence and complexity, your local problems are second to none in India. In your capital city you have the problem of overcrowding with all its attendant ills, exaggerated to an unusual degree by the limitations of the geographical position. You have also with you those labour difficulties which to-day confront the whole world and its Governments. Manual workers are no longer content to live lives of toil unrelieved by relaxation and a just share of the wealth which their labour produces. Here, as in the Western world, they are combining to win improved conditions of life for themselves and their dependants. It will be for you to watch those developments with sympathy, to hold the scales of justice evenly, and with wise counsel and by prudent laws to encourage every movement towards agreement and for the promotion of mutual good feeling. Outside your manufacturing towns you have the vast majority of your people entirely dependent on the land, and for them your particular problem is their recurring distress in years of short rainfall. Skilled projects for artificial irrigation are in progress and in contemplation ; and to financing them and devising the

necessary adjustment of tenures and landed interests your energies may fruitfully be directed.

I need not continue this tale of the administrative tasks which lie before you, familiar as they must be to all of you and constantly in your thoughts. You can approach them with confidence in the inspired leadership of your alert and zealous Governor, Sir George Lloyd.

It is the wider aspects of your new responsibilities which fill my heart after seeing what I have seen of the India of to-day, and when I think of the India of to-morrow. On some of those aspects I have spoken to the other assemblies which it has been my duty to inaugurate : for they touch the deep interests of our common humanity, the advancement of which will be at the same time the pride of India's political leaders and the gauge of their success. You have at your doors the three great causes of unrest and unhappiness : ignorance, unsanitary conditions of life, and cruel inequalities in the distribution of all that makes life worth living. No mere skill of legislation will remove these ; but all legislation must keep them in view, and work steadily towards their amelioration. Second in importance to those primary evils are customs and social restrictions which impair the brotherhood and embitter the outlook of large sections of the Indian people. The ground is delicate, and I am not here to arouse controversy or to offend honest susceptibilities. But your own reformers have cherished plans for a wider charity between classes and the abandonment of usages which, whatever may have been the justice of their origin, no longer serve to promote the well-being of the community as a whole. To such projects you will no doubt turn your minds, with a single eye to the good of your fellow-countrymen. Standing behind all these needs of the future is the need for the power to deal with them, and that power is unity. Of that I have spoken elsewhere ; and I need not now do more than repeat my heartfelt conviction that it is only by a determined sinking of sectarian differences that India will advance into its proper place in the federation of the world.

Your Excellency and Gentlemen, I am near the end of the duty which brought me to India. During my tour through the country I have been deeply impressed by the magnitude of the task which awaits the new Ministers and Councils and by the high expectations which have been formed of their achievement. I have been equally struck on one hand by the courage of the responsible leaders of Indian opinion, and on the other by the steady confidence of British officials in the success of what has been styled this great experiment. It is in the hands of these two agencies that the future lies. To both of them my parting message,

and my most earnest plea, is for co-operation and good-will. A government, such as is now installed in the provinces, cannot work in discord without the gravest detriment to the State and the people's welfare. It must go forward in substantial union. Each side must sacrifice something ; must be contented with less than its preconceived perfection ; must leave its own ground to seek for common ground. I do not for one moment believe that Indian leaders mean to jettison the ideals which the British race has endeavoured to bring into Indian life. On the other hand, I am just as certain that British officers will not be negligent of the reasoned will of the people. In that spirit I pray that either side will strive to eliminate personal misconceptions and to reconcile divergent lines of vision. For thus only will India move forward to conquer herself and to bring her victory into the service of humanity.

I now declare the Legislative Council of Bombay, as constituted under the Government of India Act, 1919, to be duly inaugurated, and I beseech the guidance of our Almighty Father in its labours.

Sir Narayen Chandavarkar, as President of the Council, made a formal acknowledgment and the ceremony terminated.

At Apollo Bunder thousands had assembled to wish the Duke good-bye. The procession which consisted of Mounted Police, the 34th Poona Horse carrying their colours, and the artillery and the Duke's body guards, lended great beauty to the occasion. At the station His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught was received by His Excellency the Governor who presented to him some of Bombay's notables and a few Ruling Chiefs including His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar. Sir George Lloyd on behalf of the City and the Presidency, in thanking His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught for his visit made the following speech :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

The mission that brought Your Royal Highness to India is now completed and it is, I venture to think, most fitting that in Bombay, the port from which Your Royal Highness departs and the Presidency that has cause above all others to feel grateful affection to Your Royal Highness, some endeavour however inadequate should be made to put into words the deep impression that has been made throughout India of the lasting good wrought by Your Royal Highness' visit.

All through the auspicious progress which Your Royal Highness has made through this land we who have watched have felt the healing spirit

at work and not only the hearers at Delhi of the moving appeal which there touched the hearts of your audience, but the countless listeners throughout the length and breadth of this land have felt the deep influence of Your Royal Highness' personality itself uniting where we were divided and healing where we were sore.

Whether we be European officials or leaders of Indian nationalism and opinion, we have felt in Your Royal Highness' utterances that the sure word was spoken and the true thing meant.

And so, Sir, we wish to express to you some measure of the sadness we feel in bidding you farewell to-day after a visit of all too brief a duration. We cannot at least let Your Royal Highness go without giving you a respectful assurance that the affection begun many years ago and deeply cherished to-day will ever remain to bind us by personal ties of Your Royal Highness, and we would add to it an expression of deepest gratitude for the lasting benefit which we feel has been conferred by the mission undertaken with such courage and devotion and carried through with such success.

Sir, Bombay will never forget you. We have tried as far as in us lay to show to Your Royal Highness some measure of the feelings we have for you. On behalf of this Presidency and this city I take leave to wish Your Royal Highness an affectionate and respectful Godspeed and a safe journey to England. I humbly tender once again through Your Royal Highness our loyal devotion and duty to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

Amidst bursts of applause, frequently repeated, His Royal Highness made the following touching reply which will ever be remembered throughout the length and breadth of India in grateful memory and appreciation of the interest the Duke has always taken in the affairs of this country and readily consented to demonstrate, once more, when he was called to undertake the perils of a long voyage in order to inaugurate the Reforms.

*Speech delivered by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught
at Apollo Bunder on 28th February 1921.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN,

In a few hours the shores of this dear land of India will pass from my sight. To the very best of my endeavour I have discharged the

task which His Majesty the King-Emperor entrusted to me. But I am growing old now, and where I have failed to achieve what a more youthful vigour of mind and body might have accomplished, India, with the kindliness and loyalty she has always displayed towards the Royal House, will generously overlook my short-comings, and console her disappointment with the thought that I came to her as a true and tried friend, bound to her by many links, and under the spell of old and happy memories. I came to her in a spirit of affection and sympathy, and in that spirit to-day I leave her, comforted and sustained in the hour of parting by the firm grip of the hand which Bombay has given to me, and by the moving and all too gracious words in which Your Excellency now bids me God-speed.

What is there that I can say to India in this hour of farewell ? Only this—that I have not moved among her peoples and her cities with deaf ears and closed eyes. I have seen, I have read and I have listened ; and I have tried to sift the grain from the chaff. If India will accept me as an impartial and unbiassed judge, free to speak as I choose, let me tell her this. I am glad that I came to India to do the work which I have done. As I fervently pray, so I firmly believe, that the new constitutions, now inaugurated, place India securely on the upward road, and that through them, if moderation rule your counsels, if you practise wisely what to discard and what to establish, the high ideals which India holds dear will assuredly be realised. Press forward on the broad highway which now lies open before you and the future is in your hand.

And as you march onward, remember, that the future has its roots in the past. Do not forget the story of your nationhood's unfolding, and the glamour of the long comradeship between this vast eastern continent and the little island in the far northern seas.

You know how a frail plant will establish itself at the foot of a forest tree, how it will struggle upwards, sheltered by the giant's shade, clinging as it grows, till at last it swells in mighty sinews upon the central trunk, repaying strength with strength, lending its powerful aid against the shock of storm and tempest. There they stand together, separate, yet bound, and the hour which decrees the fall of the one must inevitably bring the other in ruin to the dust.

Thus do I conceive the relationship in which Great Britain and India now stand. Long may they so continue, mutual sympathy their sap, and loyalty to a joint Throne the spring from which they draw their united strength.

And what message can I take back to England ?

I shall say this, that a greater effort must be made in England to understand and appreciate the Indian point of view. The voice of India has not carried the weight and does not carry the weight which India has a right to claim. To my mind, one outstanding merit of India's new constitution is that the view of the Government of India must henceforth weigh more heavily in the scale, as more truly representing the Indian point of view, than it has done in the past.

But, in the main, my message to England will be one of high confidence. I shall say—the heart of India is sound and true, her loyalty is untarnished. Her progress is great and her hopes are high. Keep in close and sympathetic touch with her. Send her your best—your second best will not be good enough—and you need have no doubt or misgiving as to the course of your future partnership.

And now the curtain must fall on my work here, but while life lasts no curtain shall divide India from my fond and grateful thoughts of her, or blot out the happy memories I so dearly cherish. My heart is too full to say more. I now bid India farewell and I pray that her people may be blessed with peace and plenty, and her leaders with wisdom and understanding.



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